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*Côté Gauche*; composed of all the Revolutionary Party acting hitherto in concert, but afterwards divided.

Prince of the blood	1
Men of law.	160
Curates	80
Gentilshommes	55
Merchants, farmers, &c.	30
	326

PUBLIC STATUTES, XXV. TO XXXIII. GEO. III.

25 Geo. 3, c. 57. Exempts mail-carriages from the payment of turnpike tolls.

Cap. 67. Prohibits the export of tools in iron and steel manufactures; also the reduction of artificers therein.

26 Geo. 3, c. 31. Sinking-fund act (*ante* 541).

Cap. 53. Regulates imprisonment by courts of conscience, ascertains the qualifications of commissioners, and abolishes fees of gaolers.

Cap. 60. For ascertaining the tonnage of ships afloat, and the increase of shipping and navigation.

Cap. 71. For licensing houses for the slaughtering of horses, and other animals.

Cap. 84. Consecration of alien bishops by English archbishop.

27 Geo. 3, c. 11. Empowering magistrates to commit vagrants charged with petty offences to hard labour till the sessions.

Cap. 38. Securing copyright of designs and prints of linen, cottons, and muslins.

28 Geo. 3, c. 30. Empowering justices to license, for certain periods, theatrical entertainments.

Cap. 48. Regulating chimney-sweepers.

Cap. 52. Regulating trial of controverted elections of members of parliament.

29 Geo. 3, c. 6. Rating pension-list to land-tax.

30 Geo. 3, c. 47. Power of governors to remit sentences of transported felons.

Cap. 48. Abolishes the punishment of burning women convicted of high or petty-treason.

31 Geo. 3, c. 31. Government of Canada (*ante* 555).

Cap. 39. Regulates seamen employed in the coasting-trade.

Cap. 51. Protecting oyster-fisheries.

32 Geo. 3, c. 42. Investing money of Chancery suitors.

Cap. 53. Police of the metropolis (*ante* 560).

REVENUE, DEBT, TAXES.

*Sums levied, for Public Purposes, in Great Britain and Ireland, in 1788. — Sinc.*

Hist. Revenue, Pt. iii., 164.

Public revenue of England £15,500,000

	£.
Brought forward	15,500,000
Charges of collection	1,379,872
Bounties and allowances	536,180
Poor-rates and county expenses	2,100,587
Charitable donations to the poor	258,710
Public hospitals, including that of Greenwich	250,000
Turnpikes in Britain	500,000
Parochial assessments and statute labour	100,000
Income of town corporations in England	500,000
Ditto in Scotland	100,000
Navigable rivers and canals	150,000
Lighting, watching, and paving	200,000
Civil establishment of Scotland	100,000
Income and taxes of Ireland	2,000,000
Total	£23,725,349

*Supplies for the year 1792.*

	£.	s.	d.
Navy	1,985,482	0	0
Army	1,819,460	0	4
Ordnance	422,001	11	3
Miscellaneous services	6,474,950	15	5½
Deficiencies.	436,990	18	0½
Total supplies	£11,138,885	5	1

*Produce of the Taxes for one Year, to the 5th of January, 1792.*

	£.	s.	d.
Customs	3,723,361	17	7¼
Excise	7,182,107	10	4½
Stamps	1,277,976	15	11
Incidents	1,940,031	3	9¼
New duties	692,948	18	1½
Total	£14,816,420	5	9½

*Public Debt in 1792.*

Principal.	Interest.
£254,306,435	£10,868,975

*Revenue of Public Charities.*

	In money.			In land.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
England	46,173	9	9	206,301	8	8
Wales	2,073	0	8	4,166	0	2
	£48,246	10	5	£210,467	8	10

*East India Company in 1791.*

	£.
Annual revenue	7,043,783
Annual expenditure	5,410,370



The average circulation of the BANK OF ENGLAND was, in 1784, 5,897,635*l*.; in 1788, 9,782,000*l*.; in 1792, 11,156,840*l*. Bullion in the Bank, in 1784, 1,097,835*l*.; in 1788, 6,321,300*l*.; in 1792, 5,912,720*l*.

The expense of collecting the public revenue of England, in 1788, was 7½ per cent. The expense of collecting the several branches was, of the

	Per cent.
Customs . . .	10½
Excise . . .	5
Stamps . . .	37
Land-tax . . .	3

The total number of persons employed in the collection of the revenue in England was 10,002; of which number, 4618 were in the customs, and 4477 in the excise. The total number in Scotland was 1466.

#### COMMERCE, SHIPPING, FISHERIES.

Besides the general peace, the settlement of the ministry, and the application of many recent inventions to manufacturing industry, other causes helped to give an impulse to commercial activity. One of these was a succession of favourable harvests, and consequent low price of provisions. During the first eight years of Mr. Pitt's administration the average price of wheat at Windsor market was 49*s*. per quarter. The average price during the long and prosperous reign of George II. was 34*s*. The vast territorial acquisitions of the East India Company, and a better system of colonial government, not only afforded a wide field for adventurous individuals, whose gains enriched the country, but threw open many new and extensive markets for English products. In consequence, the shipping employed in the India trade more than doubled; and the quantity of British manufactures annually exported to the East, which in 1774 amounted only to 907,240*l*., had increased, in 1792, to 1,921,955*l*. The fisheries were sedulously promoted; besides those of Greenland and Newfoundland, the South whale fishery was opened. The attention of the legislature to the progress of commerce is shown by its fiscal regulations, and the various statutes passed for advancing the true interests of the people. During the ten sessions which ended with that of 1793, parliament passed 1934 statutes; of these there were 625 private, and 1309 public acts; 29 were for improving manufactures, and 114 for commercial purposes.

The commercial progress of the country during the eight years of peace subsequent to the American war will appear from the subjoined statement of the ton-

nage of the ships employed in the export-trade, and the value of the cargoes exported, continued from p. 531:—

Years.	Tonnage.	Value of Cargoes.
1785	1,055,253	£16,770,228
1786	1,098,903	16,300,725
1787	1,236,954	18,296,166
1788	1,365,138	18,124,082
1789	1,443,658	20,013,297
1790	1,404,960	20,120,120
1791	1,511,157	22,731,994
1792	1,565,154	24,905,200

#### PRICES, WAGES, MORTALITY, CRIMES.

Prices of STOCKS in January; the number of BANKRUPTS in each year; and the average price per quarter of WHEAT (Windsor measure), at Windsor market:—

Yr.	3 per Ct.	Bk.	India.	Bks.	Wt.
1785	55	118	134	502	48
1786	71	143	157	510	42
1787	72	147	161	509	45
1788	74	165	170	709	49
1789	74	175	162	562	56
1790	75	171	165	585	56
1791	80	186	166	583	49
1792	90	201	196	636	53

The bankrupts, it seems, in 1788 were 709; in 1752 there were 116. These were the most and least numerous since 1740.

SUPPLIES voted by parliament in each year; with the CHRISTENINGS and BURIALS within the London Bills of Mortality:—

Yr.	Supplies.	Christenings.	Burials.
1785	9,296,300	17,919	18,919
1786	13,420,962	18,119	20,424
1787	12,414,579	17,508	19,349
1788	11,860,263	19,559	19,697
1789	11,239,235	18,163	20,749
1790	11,931,201	18,980	18,038
1791	14,073,656	18,496	18,760
1792	11,134,565	19,348	20,213

PRICES of the following articles of consumption, exclusive of the duty, were as follows:—

Year.	Coals, pr chal.	Coffee, pr cwt.	Flour, pr sack.	Sugar, pr cwt.	Tea, per lb.
1784	—	70	40	23	35
1785	26	76	36	24	19
1786	25	76	33	25	20
1787	22	95	31	37	19
1788	21	100	37	30	19
1789	21	100	42	28	19
1790	23	96	42	36	20
1791	22	73	38	43	20
1792	21	96	36	58	21

Newcastle coal; coffee, the highest priced Jamaica; sugar, the raw brown Jamaica; tea, the Bohea. The prices are



stated in shillings, except of tea, which is in pence.

Wages do not appear to have materially varied since 1760 (p. 458). The following is the contract rate of wages for artificers at Greenwich hospital, in 1790:—

	s.	d.
Carpenter, per day	2	6
Bricklayer, ditto	3	0
Mason, ditto	2	10
Plumber, ditto	3	3

Mr. Barton states the wages in husbandry, in the same year, at 8s. 1d.; equivalent in wheat to 82 pints.

The number of criminal convictions at the Old Bailey, in 1787, was as follows:—

Capital convictions	123
Lesser offences	506
Acquitted	396
Executed	100

#### ROADS AND TRAVELLING.

The essentials of commerce are money, to represent the value of commodities; weights and measures, their quantities; and roads to facilitate their conveyance. The last are more important than the preceding; they are almost the first step in social improvement, without which there can be neither security nor traffic. It is only the sea-coast and the banks of rivers that can be peopled till roads have been opened into the interior, by whose aid the forest is cleared, and a way made for the transit of the produce of industry. Agriculture has this relation to commerce that its basis is *interchange*. It consists in the reciproca-tion of superabundances with deficiencies, the excessive moisture of one district being made to correct the aridity of another; the soils and manures that are unsuitable or redundant in one description of lands may fertilize others; and both be improved. The Romans always began the task of civilization by opening new communica-tions: their object, however, was neither commerce nor agriculture, but the lust of dominion.

The labours of this extraordinary people are remarkable for two oversights that have very much excited the astonishment of posterity. Ignorant of the true principles of hydrostatics, they constructed vast and expensive aqueducts for the convey-ance of water; whereas by a knowledge that water will rise to its level, and the use of water-pipes, they might have made that necessary element convey itself. In the structure of carriages, they were unac-quainted with the *movable joint*, by which the two first wheels of a four-wheeled vehicle may alter their paral-lel position to follow the curvature of the road. Hence the great Roman ways

could not conveniently, owing to the im-movable parallelism of the axles of their large carriages, deviate from straight lines, so as to pass through the adjacent towns and villages.

The infancy of road-making, like that of navigation, must be sought in the infancy of nations. A canoe, hollowed out of the trunk of a tree, was the beginning of ship-building; and an Indian's trail, by which an untutored tribe wend their way, in single file, through forest or grassy glade of boundless extent, is the first germ of a road. Conveyance by a quadruped, which rendered necessary the widening of the trail into a sort of bridle-path, formed most likely the second step in the improvement of itinerancy. Next came the use of car-riages; a sledge, perhaps, first; after that, the cart, or sledge, raised on two wheels, connected by an axle. Then came the double cart, or waggon of four wheels, by which two parallel and transverse axles were connected by a fixed longitudinal one. In principle, no improvement beyond this has been made in the construction of car-riages, save that just alluded to, of the movable joint, which at once, by the facili-ties it afforded for turning curved lines, dispensed with the necessity of rectilinear roads for large vehicles.

The first effort of English legislation to improve what may be termed the natural roads of the kingdom was in the reign of Edward I. In 1285 an act passed for widening the highways from one market-town to another; but this was intended rather to prevent robbery than to facili-tate travelling. The roads of particular districts were amended by several laws of Henry VIII. In the reign of Philip and Mary a general act passed for the mending of highways, "being," says the law, "both very noisome and tedious to travel on, and dangerous to passengers and carriages." Under this statute surveyors were to be appointed, and every parish, by four days' labour of its people, was compelled to re-pair its own roads. This was a very effi-cient measure, till the vast extent of popu-lation and trade in the reigns of James I. and Charles I. and II. rendered necessary a more general system, especially in the vicinity of the metropolis and large towns. This gave rise to *turnpikes* in the reign of Charles II., by which those who enjoyed the benefits of safe and easy travelling contributed the necessary expense, in the payment of tolls, levied at toll-gates called turnpikes. It was a salutary and just in-novation, but long unpopular, and was not generally introduced through the kingdom till the peace of Paris, in 1763.

For nearly 100 years after the first in-troduction of turnpikes, they do not appear



to have been generally available for travelling, or the conveyance of merchandize. Down to the middle of last century, a great part of the internal trade of the island was carried on by pack-horses, the roads not being passable for a cart, or other wheeled carriage. This the writer knows from tradition to have been the case in the counties of York and Lancaster. A line of horses, the first having a bell, conveyed through long winding lanes a large part of the woollen manufactures of the West-Riding of Yorkshire. A gentleman of Manchester, who realised a sufficient fortune to enable him to keep a carriage, when not half a dozen were kept in the town, carried on his business in this way. He sent the manufactures of the place into Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire, Cambridgeshire, and the intervening counties; and principally took in exchange feathers from Lincolnshire, and malt from Cambridgeshire and Nottinghamshire. All his commodities were conveyed on pack-horses, and he was from home the greater part of every year, performing his journeys entirely on horseback. His balances were received in guineas, and were carried with him in his saddle-bags. In Lincolnshire he travelled chiefly along bridle-ways through fields, where frequent gibbets warned him of his perils, and where flocks of wild-fowl, darkened the air (*Walker's Original*, 161). It is almost within the memory of the existing generation when there was no carriage-road between Horsham and London; the only means of reaching London, thirty-six miles distant, was either by going on foot or on horseback, the latter not being practicable at all seasons of the year, nor in every state of the weather. In Scotland, about the same period, intercourse and business were similarly conducted. Oatmeal, coals, turf, and even straw and hay, were carried, not by carts or waggons, but on horseback (*McCulloch's Com. Dict.*, 915). But in carrying goods between distant places a cart was used, as all that a horse could carry on his back was not sufficient to defray the cost of a long journey. The time requisite to perform the journey seems now incredible. The common carrier, says the authority just quoted, from Selkirk to Edinburgh, thirty-eight miles distant, required a *fortnight* for his journey between the two places in going and returning.

The intelligent Arthur Young, who travelled through the southern and northern counties of England in 1770-2, often adverts to the state of the common roads. He speaks well of some in Wiltshire, and of the great north one to Barnet; and of the Kentish turnpike. In Norfolk, he says, where the roads are the boast of the inhabitants, they have not "one mile of

excellent road in the whole county" (*Six weeks' Tour in the Southern Counties*, 320). In the muddy road from Bury to Sudbury in Suffolk, he was forced to move "as slow, as in any unmended lane in Wales." The grips he found cut across for carrying off the water must, by the intolerable jolting they occasioned, have augmented the discomforts of travelling. In the north, he found matters, as might be expected, still worse. At Castle Howard he was near being "swallowed up in a slough." From Richmond to Darlington the roads were execrably bad, broken into holes, like an old pavement, sufficient to "dislocate the bones." "Yet," he says, "the people all *drink tea*" (*Six Months' Tour through the North of England*, ii. 254). At one spot he arrived at, a cross-road "fronted nine ways at once, without a single directing-post" (*Ibid.* iv. 423). As to the Lancashire ways, he cautions people to shun them as they would the devil. The description he gives of the turnpike-road from Wigan to Preston (proud Preston, as it was formerly called, as being the exclusive abode of gentry) is frightful enough! "I know not," says he, "in the whole range of language terms sufficiently expressive to describe this infernal road. To look over a map, and perceive that it is a principal one, not only to some towns, but even whole counties, one would naturally conclude it to be at least decent; but let me most seriously caution all travellers who may accidentally purpose to travel this terrible country to avoid it as they would the devil, for a thousand to one but they break their necks or their limbs by overthrows or breakings down. They will here meet with ruts, which I actually measured, *four feet deep*, and floating with mud only from a wet summer;—what, therefore, must it be after a winter? The only mending it in places receives, is the tumbling in some loose stones, which serve no other purpose but jolting a carriage in the most intolerable manner. These are not merely opinions, but facts, for I actually passed three carts broken down in these eighteen miles of execrable memory" (*Northern Tour*, iv. 431).

Accustomed to the smooth and level roads of the present day, we can form no idea of the delays and dangers of former tourists. The anecdote related of the poet Cowley in 1665 seems almost incredible. He had retired into the country, to Chertsey, and thence invited Sprat to enjoy the pleasures of St. Anne's Hill, telling him, "that he might sleep the first night at Hampton Town:" thus spending two days in the performance of a journey of twenty-two miles, in the neighbourhood of London.



Our surprise at such relations is lessened, upon reflecting on the length of time consumed in stage-coach travelling. Forty years later, namely, in 1706, the stage-coach from York to London was four days on the road. The journey is now performed in about twenty hours. In 1763 there was only a coach once a month from Edinburgh to London; and it took from twelve to fourteen days to perform the journey. Now, six or seven coaches start daily from one capital to the other, and perform the journey in from forty-five to forty-eight hours. Even this is in rapid progress of being eclipsed, by the miracles of railway travelling, but of which a notice belongs to a subsequent period.

The strenuous efforts of the legislature to improve not only the inter-communications of the kingdom, but also to effect other local amendments, will appear from the following classification of the number of acts of parliament passed for these purposes, in the interval from 1784 to 1792, which is the period more immediately claiming attention:—

Roads, bridges, &c. . . . .	302
Canals, harbours, &c. . . . .	64
Inclosures, draining, &c. . . . .	245
Paving, and other parochial improvements . . . . .	139
Total	750

IRELAND IN 1748 AND 1792.

	1748.	1792.
Land about Cork (English acre) . . . . .	16	80
About Dublin (Irish acre) . . . . .	60	170
Wool per stone . . . . .	7	16
Sheep . . . . .	9	26
Oxen, fat . . . . .	100	240
Milch cows . . . . .	40	145

These are the average prices in *shillings*. Corn was occasionally very low and very high; but so unequal was the country to feed itself, that Dublin alone paid to foreign parts for wheat and flour above 100,000*l.* annually. There is not only now an annual supply, but Ireland has, upon an average, exported latterly 300,000 barrels of wheat, and 500,000 barrels of oats. (*Annual Register* for 1792, p. 106.)

MEN OF LETTERS.

Robert Lowth, bishop of London, 1710—1787. “*De sacra Poësi Hebræorum*,” 4to. 1753; “*Life of William of Wykeham*,” 8vo. 1758; “*Introduction of English Grammar*,” 1762; “*Isaiah*,” a new translation, 1778.

Gilbert Stuart, LL.D., 1742—1786.

“*Historical Dissertation on the Antiquity of the British Constitution*,” 1767; “*View of Society in Europe*,” 4to.; “*Observations on the Law and Constitutional History of Scotland*,” 1776; “*History of the Reformation in Scotland*,” 4to., 1780.

Jonas Hanway, traveller and philanthropist, 1712—1786. “*Historical Account of the British Trade in the Caspian Sea*,” 4 vols. 4to., 1753.

Soame Jenyns, 1704—1787. “*Art of Dancing*,” a poem, 1728; “*Free Inquiry into the Nature and Origin of Evil*,” 1757; “*View of the Internal Evidences of the Christian Religion*,” 1776; “*Disquisitions on Various Subjects*,” 1782; “*Thoughts on Parliamentary Reform*.”

John Wesley, founder of the Methodists, 1703—1791. “*A Calm Address to the American Colonies*,” a pamphlet on the side of the British Government, on the breaking out of the war. Mr. Wesley’s works on divinity, ecclesiastical history, sermons, &c., amounted in 1774 to thirty-two vols., 8vo.

Adam Smith, 1723—1790. “*The Theory of Moral Sentiments*,” 1755; “*Essay on the Origin of Languages*,” “*Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations*,” 2 vols. 4to., 1776.

Thomas Warton, poet-laureate, 1728—1790. “*Observations on Spenser’s Fairy Queen*,” 1754; “*History of English Poetry*,” first vol. 4to. 1774, second vol. 1778, third vol. 1781: the author’s death left it unfinished.

Benjamin Franklin, LL.D., 1706—1790. “*Liberty and Necessity*,” “*Poor Richard’s Almanac*,” 1732; “*Experiments in Electricity*, 1747—1757.

Sir Joshua Reynolds, an eminent artist, 1723—1792. “*Notes on a Tour in the Netherlands*,” 1781—1783. “*Discourses*” at the Royal Academy, 1769—1790. His works, edited by Malone, two vols. 4to., were published in 1797.

Francis Grose, antiquary, 1731—1791. “*Antiquities of England*,” 8 vols. 4to., 1773; “*Treatise on Ancient Armour*,” 1786; “*Provincial Glossary and Proverbs*,” 1787; “*Antiquities of Ireland*,” 2 vols. 4to., posthumous.

John Smeaton, civil engineer, 1724—1792. “*Experimental Inquiry on the Natural Powers of Wind and Water to turn Mills, &c.*” 4to., 1760; “*Historical Report on Ramsgate Harbour*,” 8vo., 1791; “*Narrative of the building of Eddystone Lighthouse*,” folio, 1791.

Catherine Macaulay, or Graham, the republican historian: died 1791. “*History of England, from the Accession of James I. to the Brunswick Line*,” first vol. 4to., 1763, the eighth and last in 1783. “*Remarks on Hobbes*,” 1769. “*Letters on*

Education," 1790. "Letter to Lord Stanhope on the French Revolution," 1791.

Robert Henry, LL.D., a Scottish clergyman, 1718—1790. "History of Great Britain, to the Accession of Edward VI.;"

first vol. in 1771; the last, which was posthumous, in 1793. Dr. Henry translated Goguet's "Origin of Laws," three vols. 8vo.

### GEORGE III. A.D. 1793 to 1803.

THE preceding portion of the current reign exhibited the progress of the country during eight years of peace; the present embraces nine years of war, to the conclusion of the Treaty of Amiens, in 1802. Although not a lengthened term, it is the most interesting and important in history, demonstrating by the mass of extraordinary events crowded into its brief space, that whatever may have been the influence of civilization in diffusing luxury and enjoyment, it has had no tendency to lessen the activity, diversity, and might, when called into exertion, of the human intellect and passions. The French Revolution brought forth giants—giants in speculation and practice—in politics and war—in morals, patriotism, and crimes.

The first and prominent event of this remarkable period is the commencement of the war of 1793, and the novel principles in which it originated. Unlike former wars, it did not originate in the personal quarrels of princes, like those of the Edwards and Henries; nor in religious animosities, like those of Henry VIII. and Elizabeth; nor in territorial cupidity, like those of William III. and queen Anne; nor in the interests of a petty electorate, like those of George I. and II.; nor in colonial disputes, like the first war of the present sovereign. Different from these, the revolutionary contest had neither the passions of monarchs, nor the restless ambition of the Bourbons, for its object; but took its rise from the hitherto unimagined ground of OPINION—an opinion of contingent danger from the acts, chiefly internal, of a neighbouring state.

As the primary cause was moral, it might have been supposed that moral precautions, without actual hostilities, were alone needed. A powerful kingdom had fallen into anarchy, in an effort to free herself from great social and political disorders; what could be more politic than that other nations, without the risk of experiment, should quietly profit by her example? If France had lost more than she had gained by the destruction of her monarchy, her church, and aristocracy, it was doubtless a consequence susceptible of proof, and public opinion needed only to be enlightened on the tendency of her errors. Unfortunately, governments were not inclined to derive this gratuitous lesson. A conflagration had burst forth, and they threw brands into the burning. Already apprehensive and excited by the emigration of a degenerate nobility, by famine, and the counter-revolutionary plots of the court, the rage of the French kindled into fury at the threatened intervention of foreigners in their affairs. By the invasion of the first coalition, in 1792, and its vain denunciations of vengeance, every evil was precipitated, an unconquerable power elicited, and the death of the king and massacre of the royalists provoked.

Except the merit of being later in the field, England evinced neither more wisdom nor folly than the continental despots. Like them, she was



not content to observe a moral quarantine pending the delirium of her neighbour, be a spectator of her convulsions, and profit by the lessons they afforded. Urged by various considerations, she mingled in the fray, first as an accessory, next as principal, and lastly, single-handed. The classes and interests which mainly produced this determination in public policy may perhaps be described under the following category:—

The *first* and most influential were doubtless the aristocratic orders of the community. Foremost among these may be classed the king himself. Although George III. was not remarkable for shining abilities, he always manifested a shrewd sense of his own interests, and seemed conscious of the influence likely to be wrought on the *status* of his order by the progress of the French Revolution. "If a stop," said he, "be not put to French principles, there will not be a king left in Europe in a few years\*." A like apprehension of real or imaginary danger influenced the peerage, the church, corporations, and the legal and proprietary classes. The only noblemen who openly defended the Revolution were the eccentric earls Stanhope and Lauderdale; the rest were alarmists in different degrees, though they did not openly pass over to the ministerial standard, like Burke and Windham, and the lords Portland, Spencer, Fitzwilliam, Loughborough, and other peers and commoners, who acquired that distinctive appellation. In neither house of parliament was there a valid opposition to the war. The resolutions brought forward by Mr. Fox (see *Feb.* 18, 1793) embraced the sentiments of his party in both houses; but, like the motions generally emanating from the same quarter, they rather impugned the minister than his measures: for though they disclaimed the right of one country to interfere with another on account of its internal government—a sentiment from which the chiefs of their opponents did not openly dissent—they did not specifically deny the absence of adequate ground for hostilities.

The *second* class, who viewed the rupture of amicable relations with France favourably, were the religious sectaries. In the view of these, the French were an infidel nation, with whose course were associated atheism and licentiousness; and the war was a holy enterprise for the re-establishment of religion, morality, and social order. The influence of this party was not derived from wealth or intellectual pre-eminence, but from numbers, and an assumption of exemplary purity of motive and conduct. They were mostly under the guidance of Mr. Wilberforce, who, though opposed to the commencement of the war, was prevented, by the management of Mr. Pitt, from making a public declaration of his sentiments in parliament, and after hostilities had continued a year or two, he openly expressed himself convinced of their necessity.

The *third*, and by far the most numerous class, were those whose feelings were wrought on by the excesses of the Revolution. Without the aid of these, war would have been impossible: they were the bulk of the nation—the old and young of both sexes—who could feel better than reason. Inflamed by the writings of Mr. Burke, and the French emigrants, who now inundated the country, they read with horror the details of the Parisian insurrections, of the insults offered to the royal family, and of the trial and treatment of Louis XVI. They beheld the national frenzy, the blood and desolation, but not their causes or extenuation. They did not reflect that the crimes of a populace, ignorant, excited, often maddened by hunger, and long oppressed, were not the crimes, nor wishes of the nation: that a terrible danger menaced France; that brute force could only be resisted by the aid of brute force; that a league of kings—themselves tyrants—had

\* Nicholls's Recollections of the Reign of George III., p. 400.

combined to dictate to France her social institutions, and that their intervention was solicited, encouraged, and promoted by domestic treason. History has revealed these truths, and placed them beyond dispute. It is now perfectly understood that nothing would satisfy the discomfited royalists of France, save the restoration of the ancient despotism; and that Louis himself, in violation of his professions, his engagements, and his oaths, was acting in concert with a rabid coalition who projected the invasion, perhaps the desolation and dismemberment of his kingdom\*.

France could not have any wish to become a second Poland, nor Paris an Ismael. Had her emergencies been known,—the plots internal and external against her liberties and nationality,—it is probable the British people would have been more tolerant of her offences, and less disposed to resent them by hostilities. As it was, they were ignorant, if not duped. Neither does the government appear to have been obnoxious to serious reproaches, unless it were because it was not wiser and more just than the community. It went with the torrent, which at the moment, perhaps, it was vain to resist. That the war was popular at the beginning is shown by the "Events and Occurrences" of the period—by the absence of petitions and remonstrances against it—by the acquiescence of all classes and interests, except a few revolutionary zealots, who were only as dust in the balance in the determination of this great public question.

On the part of the government, the war was neither foreseen nor premeditated. This appears from the tenor of the king's speeches to parliament, and those of his minister. In the summer of 1792, towards the close of the session, Mr. Pitt said in the House of Commons, "England had never a fairer prospect of a long continuance of peace. I think we may confidently reckon on peace for TEN YEARS†." He looked upon the existing dispute with France about the opening of the Scheldt, and other matters, as nothing more than an affair of the violation of treaties, upon which he reasoned in the pompous commonplace of an old Aix-la-Chapelle plenipotentiary. Mr. Burke was not more prescient of the results of the Revolution: he considered France self-extinguished (Feb. 9, 1790), and advocated a reduction in our peace-establishment.

That peace would have been better than war, the profitless results of the contest demonstrated. It averted no evil, and attained no good that might not have been attained without it. Nevertheless, hostilities seemed the unavoidable result of circumstances. Had Mr. Pitt refused to go to war, he would have been driven from power by the united voice of king and people, and his successor, whether whig or tory, would have been compelled to pursue the course of policy which was only reluctantly followed by that celebrated statesman. On the other hand, had England been more pacifically inclined than she was, she might a little later have been forced into the contest by the altered tone, the foreign intermeddling, and extravagance of the French government.

France was no longer the same after the retreat of the duke of Brunswick, and the successful resistance of 1792. The national energies had been evoked, foreigners had been everywhere driven from her frontiers; she was intoxicated by her triumphs, and sudden escape from the thrall of the coalition. Republicanism had become the faith—almost the fanatic faith—of the nation; and the zeal of the French in its propagation was

\* *Memoirs and Correspondence of Lafayette*, iii., 220; also *Bertrand de Moleville*, viii., 39, quoted by M. Thiers. "All or nothing" (*Lafayette's Memoirs*, iii., 252) was the constant cry of the emigrants, headed by the king's brothers Monsieur and the Count d'Artois, the former afterwards Louis XVIII., and the latter Charles X.

† *Nicholls's Recollections of George III.*, p. 137.



hardly less than that of the followers of Mahomet. Equality was esteemed a universal right ; and it was felt as an obligation of the prevailing cosmopolitanism, that the whole family of man ought to share in its blessings\*.

While the spirit of propagandism prevailed, peace was hardly compatible with security. England must become either republican or hostile ; monarchy could not co-exist with the proselyting zeal of her neighbour, seconded as it was by some active, though not very numerous, converts in this country.

The Revolution solved important political problems, and many moral ones. France went rapidly through every phase of the social cycle. From despotism she fell into the depths of democracy. After exhibiting in this abyss the strangest feats of wildness, energy, and wonderment, she again merged, divested of part of the dross and pollution that had accompanied her fall, into the quieter regions of aristocracy. Theories which philosophers had only propounded in their closets were boldly tried, and their applicability to human affairs tested. It was a plunge in the dark, in which no one could boast superior light ; for all the extremes of the Revolution seem to have been inevitable issues. The old fabric of the monarchy once assailed, no intermediate resting-place could be found. The royalists would surrender nothing ; they appealed to physical force, and the aid of the masses was necessary to resist them. The multitude conquered ; but armed, without knowledge or experience, they could neither govern nor be governed. Partly by stratagem, partly by force, their weapons were got from them, order was re-established, and France reaped some of the rewards of her unparalleled trial†.

It is only the leading points of this extraordinary movement, and of the war it produced, that can be included in this introductory summary ; the detail and filling-up must be sought in the "Occurrences."

The meeting of the CONVENTION, towards the close of 1792, has been already described (p. 538). It was chosen on the basis of universal suffrage ; and had not its acts been influenced by the municipality and clubs of Paris, they would have been perhaps more truly the expression of the national will than those of any legislature that ever assembled. It began its mission with the formal deposition of the monarchy ; it was the first year of the Republic, 1789 being the first year of liberty. Next followed the trial and execution of the king. Vigorous measures were adopted to defend the country against the combined powers ; the revolutionary tribunal and committee of public safety were established. Fierce contests next arose between the Gironde deputies and the Jacobins ; the former were deemed too tame for the crisis, and, the latter triumphing over them, they were sent to the scaffold. The safety of the republic became the supreme law. The nation was summoned to rise en masse to meet the invaders, and one million of republicans were assembled on the frontiers. This was the commencement of the REIGN OF TERROR. It began about the middle of 1793, and continued through great part of the following year. Its chief

\* General Lafayette, after assisting the Americans in the establishment of their independence, purposed assisting the Irish volunteers in achieving a similar boon (*Memoirs*, iii., 212). Lafayette was only a lukewarm type of the zeal of many of the French republicans of 1792-3.

† That the good outweighed the evil of the Revolution is shown by the fact, that lands in France yield one-third more produce than they did previously to the taking of the Bastille (*Nicholls's Recollections of the Reign of George III.*, p. 89). A tolerably satisfactory proof this ; but all the fruits of the struggle have not yet been gathered by France or Europe.

agents were Robespierre, Danton, Marat, St. Just, and Couthon, most of whom were young lawyers whose ages averaged about thirty years. They governed by the guillotine, upon the maxims of the deys of Algiers, by beheading all whom they disliked. Draco had only one punishment for offences, and they seem to have adopted the institutions of that sanguinary lawgiver. Generals, deputies, and private persons, without regard to age, sex, or condition, science, virtue, or services, were all made to pass under the axe, if suspected of crimes against the state. "The glory of France," says Madame de Stael, "was decimated in the deaths of Roland, Malesherbes, Bailly\*, Lavoisier, Vergniaud, Guadet, and Condorcet." Eighty victims each day were not unusually offered up to the Moloch of anarchy. The Revolution became blind as well as furious. Like Saturn, it began to devour its own children. Hardly were the Brissotins in their graves, than the Jacobins fell upon each other. Robespierre and Danton combined against Hebert and the Cordeliers: these immolated by their joint efforts, Robespierre rose against Danton, and lastly the tyrant himself fell a victim to his confederates in crime,—Tallien, Barrere, Billaud-Varennes, and Bourdon de L'Oise.

The elect of the clubs having perished by the hands of each other, France began to breathe from internal slaughter. After the fall of Robespierre the executive power was vested in a DIRECTORY of five persons. Four of these were Jacobins; but though of that party, they found no government compatible with its principles of constant insurrection and popular excitement. Jacobinism had addressed itself to the passions, abstract rights, and apparent interests of the people, by which they called forth their energies, and enlisted them in the public cause. Their union was cemented with the blood of a thousand victims; their desperate deeds shutting out the hope of mercy from their enemies, left no alternative but Death or Victory. It is possible their reckless course saved France from the coalition, and was a result which the more wavering and scrupulous policy of the Constitutionals and Girondins would not have accomplished. But their mission fulfilled, their services were no longer desirable. They had swept away the use with the abuse, in church and state, morals and religion. They had proved themselves efficient exterminators of foreign and domestic foes; but the time had arrived when the course of the Revolution ought to be stayed, and the guillotine cease to be the head magistrate of a community, aspiring to be civilized.

The Directory proceeded with caution, but vigour and perseverance. The first point to attain was to annihilate the disturbing influence of the clubs, which, with the aid of the populace, had dictated the proceedings of the Convention†. The meetings of the Jacobins were suppressed, and the attempt at their revival in the Pantheon defeated. The more violent of them were gradually weeded from the municipality of Paris, and from offices of power and trust in the government. Barrere, Billaud-Varennes,

\* Considerations on the French Revolution, ii., 121.

† Dumont, in speaking of the influence of the Jacobins and other affiliated societies, says, "the whole of the people were excited by these societies, which soon became rivals of the Assembly. A member, who had no influence with the Assembly, had only to affect exaggerated democracy, and he became a hero among the Jacobins. These societies became hot-houses, in which every venomous plant, that could not be made to grow in the open air, was forced to maturity" (*Recollections of Mirabeau*, 284). It was from this source Robespierre, Danton, Marat, and other sanguinary spirits, derived their ascendancy.



Collot D'Herbois, Vadier, and others of the party in the Convention were expatriated. Inflammatory journals were suppressed; and to lessen the influence of popular clamour, the galleries in the Convention, for spectators, were reduced. The Jacobins felt their power being undermined: tenacious of life, they tried by repeated insurrections to recover their ascendancy: their last effort was the unsuccessful conspiracy of Babeuf, in 1796. The directorial government persevered in its policy of conciliating the moderate and repressing the anarchists, till its dissolution in 1799, when it was superseded by the consulate.

The Convention dissolved itself in October, 1795, having first established a new constitution, the nature of which, as well as its fierce contest with the Parisian sections, are set forth in the "Occurrences." It had sat three years, during which it had exercised legislative and executive power in a wonderful manner. Its glorious acts and criminal excesses are the theme of history. With a bold hand it had smote into the dust a monarchy which the superstition of fourteen centuries had consecrated. With remorseless energy it destroyed the dominant factions that successively rose in its own bosom. It acknowledged no distinctions, prescription, or privilege, save that of talent and patriotism, to which it opened a boundless career. Standing alone, it defeated the confederated despotisms of Europe, transformed the refuse of cities into conquering heroes, and created exhaustless resources out of the spoils of foes and traitors. Its course was dazzling; often marked with fire, blood, and mourning, but it reached the goal; saved France, and raised her to a height of power she had never attained since the days of Charlemagne.

The commencement of 1795 was a favourable moment for England withdrawing from a hopeless contest. The object of the war was unattained and unattainable. The Bourbon cause was hopeless, and the "march to Paris" had proved a dear-bought illusion. France, in the language of Mr. Pitt, had become "an armed nation." It was vain to expect that mercenary legions would triumph over a powerful and enthusiastic people. Defeated ourselves in Holland, the Netherlands severed from Austria, Savoy from Sardinia; and peace concluded by the republic with Prussia, Spain, and Tuscany, what could be hoped from perseverance under so many disasters? The destruction of the Toulon fleet, the acquisition of Corsica and Guadeloupe, and the naval victory of lord Howe, would not counterbalance the loss of so many allies and rich provinces: moreover, the spirit of the people in the two countries had changed. Anarchy had subsided in France after the dispersion of the Terrorists, and a government of apparent stability had been established. With the restoration of order and humanity the hostile feelings of the English had abated: they had ceased to be apprehensive that a spirit of insubordination would be diffused by her infectious example, or rank and property be endangered.

The war itself had brought many domestic evils, besides increased taxation, and a vast addition to the public expenditure. The liberties of the people had been abridged by the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act—by inundating the country with spies and informers—and by arbitrary and vindictive prosecutions. The irregular trials and severe punishments inflicted on the Scotch reformers, in 1793, and the attempt to crush at one blow those of England in the following year, excited general disgust and indignation. Such was the increase of popular discontents that the king was assailed in his carriage, and his life endangered, on the opening of

parliament, in 1795. This violence, and the activity of the reform societies, gave rise to new laws for the better preservation of his majesty's person, and the prevention of public meetings for political purposes. The minister, however, was tenacious of his purpose: with the loss of allies, and the loss of popularity, he still clung to the delusive hope that the fiscal resources of the enemy would be exhausted; just as if a revolutionary government, with a devoted population of 25 millions, a fertile soil and fine climate, reinforced by conquests that had added one-fourth to its means, could ever want the sinews of war!

It was a war against principles, but only principles on one side. Democratic excesses were sought to be punished, but not the crimes of cabinets. Commiseration was felt for the death of a monarch, but none for the extinction of a nation. In 1791 the Poles reformed their government, and established a free constitution. In the following year Russia, with the concurrence of Austria and Prussia, overran their country, and forcibly put down their constitution. Neither a democratic republic in France, nor a constitutional monarchy in Poland, would satisfy the caprice of regal despots. In 1793 Poland was partly dismembered: in 1794 her name, in lieu of that of France, as Mr. Burke had announced, was expunged from the map of Europe. The British government was an unmoved spectator of the annihilation of a member of the "great European family," neither expressing indignation at its injustice, nor alarm for the loss of that balance of power which, for a century preceding, it had been almost the exclusive object of her foreign policy to maintain.

In 1795 the professed object of the war against France changed; it was no longer against her form of government, her irreligion, nor her levelling doctrines; but against her ambition and territorial aggrandizement,—evils which the war itself had created. The year 1797 seems to have been its most disastrous epoch.

By the victories of General Buonaparte the emperor was compelled, for the safety of Vienna, to conclude the treaty of Campo Formio, which severed Belgium and Italy from the empire, and left England singly to contend with the gigantic power of the republic. Intoxicated by success, the Directory threatened to invade England, assembled an army on the opposite coast, called the *Army of England*, and actually sought to raise a loan on the credit of British spoils. Public credit became affected; the funds fell; there was a run on the northern banks, which extended to the Bank of England, already drained of specie by heavy remittances to the Continent, and it was compelled, in obedience to an Order in Council, to stop payment in coin. This was in February. Scarcely had the public apprehensions on this subject began to subside, than a series of mutinies broke out in the fleets at the Nore and Portsmouth, which continued two months, and at one time assumed so alarming an aspect, as to threaten the safety of the navy, either by the sinking of the ships, or their surrender to the enemy by their rebellious crews. These disorders being quelled by a union of firmness and concession, public attention was next called to the critical state of Ireland. Societies had there been generally established of an opposite but alike dangerous description—the United Irishmen, seeking the redress of wrongs by foreign intervention, and the Orangemen, to uphold a system of injustice by irritating outrages, and persecution. The violence of both had its natural vent in a bloody civil war, which burst forth in the following year. Out of this calamity arose the common good to both king-



doms, of the LEGISLATIVE UNION ; which, after much delay and negotiation in the reconciliation or purchase of existing interests, was finally consummated in the last year of the century.

Though the fortunes of the country were alarmingly depressed in 1797, it rapidly emerged from the nadir of adversity. One favourable circumstance of that year was the low price of bread, wheat being one-third or one-fourth less in price than the average of the two preceding years. Public difficulties tended to unite the people by lessening the asperity of factions. Moreover, the national spirit had been roused by the arrogant conduct of the French Directory, who had dismissed Lord Malmesbury, sent on a pacific mission to the republic, with a haughtiness akin to that evinced by Lord Grenville in the dismissal of M. Chauvelin in 1793. After the victory of Camperdown all uneasiness ceased, as to the spirit of British seamen. The sailing of the grand Toulon armament, under Napoleon Buonaparte, to Egypt in May 1798, removed any apprehension as to a descent on this kingdom. A few months after, this powerful fleet was destroyed in gallant style by Admiral Nelson, in the bay of Aboukir. This victory had an electric effect on the spirits of the people, momentarily depressed by the issue of the Ostend expedition. It also roused the spirits of the continental states opposed to the power of France, which had begun to be unpopular from the invasion of Switzerland, and the rapacity exercised in Italy and the Netherlands.

The year 1799 was pregnant with important events. At home it commenced with the imposition of a tax of ten per cent. on all incomes above 200*l.*, with a diminishing ratio on incomes below that sum, and not less than 60*l.* On the Continent, aided by English subsidies, a THIRD COALITION (that of Pilnitz being the first), not less formidable than the second, was formed against the French Republic. Russia had taken the place of Prussia in the new confederacy, and Naples and Turkey of Sardinia and Tuscany. Except in Holland, where a combined English and Russian force failed in an effort to restore the Stadtholder, the allies were signally successful ; and even in Holland the Dutch fleet in the Texel fell into the hands of the English. The expedition, however, was very disastrous to the British, who were compelled to sign a humiliating convention, besides suffering severely from the attacks of the enemy, the severity of the weather, and the hostility of the inhabitants, whom they had professedly come to aid in throwing off the republican yoke. From Italy the French were driven by the victories of Marshal Suvarof, aided by the counter-revolution effected in the kingdom of Naples and the dominions of the Pope. Amidst these reverses General Buonaparte landed in France, from the conquest of Egypt, and was received as the saviour of the country. From his great and varied talents he was looked upon as peculiarly fitted to retrieve the affairs of the republic, which had suffered in his absence through the incapacity of the Directory, unable at once to cope with the coalition on the frontier, and resist in the interior the machinations of royalists and jacobins. A revolution followed in November, of an extraordinary character, ( it is described in the "Events") and by which Buonaparte was created First Consul of the republic.

Immediately after his elevation to the consular chair, he made a direct communication to the King of England for a pacific negotiation. This overture not meeting a favourable reception, he began energetic preparations for opening the campaign of 1800. The victories of Marengo and Hohenlinden compelled the emperor, a second time, to conclude peace for

the safety of his capital. England was again left single on the battle-field undismayed, but weary of hostilities. This time her enemies had multiplied; the emperor Paul of Russia had not only capriciously withdrawn from the coalition, but revived the armed neutrality of the northern powers in defence of maritime rights. It was speedily dissolved by his sudden death and the cannon of Admiral Nelson.

The spirits of the nation rose with its difficulties. Without an enemy on the Continent, the First Consul in 1801 revived the threat of an invasion of England. It proved, like all similar threats, an idle vaunt, but served to call forth the energies of the people in a proud array of defenders. The splendid victories of Alexandria and Copenhagen, the one a land and the other a naval triumph, gave signal lustre to the British arms in the last year of hostilities. The war had now become without an adequate object. Invasion was too hazardous an experiment even for the adventurous mind of Buonaparte. England was undisputed master at sea, France on land; neither belligerent could act offensively towards the other: like the man cased in armour, they could neither injure nor be injured. Under these circumstances peace became the natural wish of both nations.

Preparatory to this a change of great importance had occurred in the councils of Britain. Mr. Pitt, unable to redeem his pledge to the Irish, to carry, as a condition of the Union, catholic emancipation, had resigned, on that popular ground, the premiership, in which he was succeeded by Mr. Addington. One great obstacle to a pacific negotiation was thereby removed. Preliminaries of peace were signed between England and France, October 1, 1801, but a definitive treaty was not concluded till the spring of the following year. France seized the opportunity afforded by the intervening armistice of pursuing, with restless activity, various ambitious objects. An expedition was fitted out for the recovery of St. Domingo and Guadeloupe; the last object was promptly attained, and slavery re-established. Louisiana was ceded to France by Spain, and soon after sold to the American States. Parma was annexed to France, and the First Consul procured himself to be made president of the Cisalpine Republic. These secret treaties and annexations produced jealousies, but did not suspend the negotiations at Amiens.

During the two last years of the war England had been visited by an intense scarcity, occasioned by the deficient harvests of 1799 and 1800. In March, 1801, the quartern loaf of 4lb. 5½ oz. rose to 1s. 10½d., but the harvest of that year, being unusually abundant, it fell in November to 10½d. (*Annual Register*, xliii. 168.) While the dearth lasted, parliament tried to economize the national consumption by legislation; prohibiting the use of other than brown bread, and of bread that had not been baked twenty-four hours. The economical wisdom of the judges was not less preposterous than that of the legislature; for they fostered popular prejudices against a useful class of middle-men, by severely punishing (as will be remarked in the "Occurrences" of the year) the seasonable speculative enterprise of capitalists. The sufferings of the people had the effect of originating some useful statistical inquiries into the national resources; an Act being for the first time passed, in 1800, for ascertaining the population, and a parliamentary committee made a useful report on the nature and extent of the waste lands of the kingdom.

After much anxious suspense the definitive Treaty of Amiens was signed, March 27, 1802. England gave up all her colonial acquisitions, except Ceylon and Trinidad, but existing treaties were not disturbed, neither those



concluded by the English in the East Indies, nor by the French on the Continent.

Thus terminated the first revolutionary war. During nine years a dreadful experiment had been made,—by which rulers learnt the danger of tyranny—the people that of anarchy, and statesmen the risk of one nation interfering in the internal affairs of another. Like most wars in which England had been engaged, it was unnecessarily protracted. Its commencement was perhaps unavoidable, in the existing spirit of the people; but its long continuance was voluntary. After the close of 1794, as before observed, the chief obstacles to peace had disappeared, and had it been then concluded Europe would have escaped dire calamities. It was only after the establishment of the Directory that the French became intoxicated with the love of conquest; that the illusions of republican liberty were exchanged for the illusions of military glory; that the aim of making one nation free was perverted to that of making other people slaves. It was this change of direction in the national feeling of France that raised from obscurity to the chief magistracy a soldier of vast genius, whose ambition was insatiable, and element desolation. By the elevation to the supreme power of Napoleon Buonaparte, the Revolution seemed to be closed. It was begun and finished by the military; by their aid the Bastile was taken, in 1789; by their subsequent desertion of the populace, siding first with the Convention, next the Directory, and, lastly, the Consulate, the democracy was overpowered, and order and internal quiet re-established.

#### EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

A.D. 1793. *Jan.* Ireland much disturbed by the outrages of the *Defenders*, who in large bodies attack the houses of Protestants, and plunder them of their arms.

The empress of Russia assigned portions of land in the Crimea to French emigrants.

10. The common council of London offered a bounty of 40s. for every able seaman, and 20s. for every ordinary seaman, above the bounty granted by Government.

Mr. Silva and his maid-servant murdered at Chelsea; his nephew, who committed suicide a few days after, by swallowing arsenic, was strongly suspected.

16. TRIAL OF LOUIS XVI.—This extraordinary proceeding was nearly concluded at the end of last year. The charges upon which the king had been arraigned were, that he “had been guilty of a conspiracy against liberty, and of attempts against the general safety of the state.” On the 16th inst. the Convention met to determine the punishment Louis was to suffer. After a long deliberation, the president announced to the assembly that of 721 votes, 366 were for death, 319 for imprisonment during the war, two for perpetual imprisonment, eight for a suspension of his execution after sentence, till after the expulsion of the Bourbons; 23 were for not putting him to death, unless the French territory was invaded by any foreign power; and one was for death, but with commutation of

punishment. Barrere the president then took off his hat, and said, “In consequence of this I declare, that the punishment pronounced by the National Convention against Louis Caput is—DEATH.” The duke of Orleans, cousin of the king, voted for death, as did Sieyes, “*sans phrase*,” an expression of the abbé that became proverbial. Thomas Paine made an ingenious speech in favour of banishment, during which he was interrupted by Marat, who said he was “a quaker.” An effort was made to delay the execution of the sentence, but this appeal was negatived on the 19th inst. by 380 to 310 voices after a protracted sitting of thirty-six hours.

18. Lord George Gordon having suffered five years’ imprisonment for libels, appeared to offer bail for his good behaviour. He wore a long beard, after the Jewish fashion, and informed the court he had entered into the “holy covenant of the circumcision.” Bail objected to by the attorney-general, and his Lordship remanded.

21. Louis XVI., in the 39th year of his age, beheaded. He began his reign May 10, 1774; was driven from the Tuileries August 10, 1792; imprisoned on the 14th, and dethroned Sept. 22 following. He had reigned 18 years and three months. The failure of his attempt to join the emigrants was a misfortune, for his death caused a revengeful excitement in Europe dispropor-

tionate to the occasion, and only atoned for crimes of which he was guiltless,—the ambition of Louis XIV. and the profligacy of the regency and succeeding reign. He was weak, but better instructed than some of his predecessors, and in good times would have been reckoned a good prince. Lafayette says (*Memoirs* III.) he neither knew how to get rid of a bad minister nor keep a good one.

24. M. Chauvelin ordered to leave the kingdom within eight days. Persons connected with public establishments, and of rank and opulence, rejoiced at the abrupt dismissal of the French minister.

25. Lord Auckland, the British ambassador at the Hague, presented a memorial to the states-general severely reprehending the French convention.

27. The court goes into mourning for Louis XVI., which was generally done in London.

28. WAR WITH FRANCE.—A royal message delivered to parliament, informing them that the king had determined to augment his forces “for supporting his allies, and for opposing views of aggrandisement and ambition on the part of France, at all times dangerous to the interests of Europe, but peculiarly so when connected with the propagation of principles subversive of the peace and order of all civil society.” Upon this message an animated debate ensued; on one side were arrayed the delinquencies of France in the execution of Louis XVI. and the restless ambition of her rulers; on the other, those of the allies in the Brunswick manifesto, and dismemberment of Poland.

30. Citizen Maret arrived in London with fresh proposals to avert hostilities, but was forthwith ordered to quit the kingdom.

Feb. 1. The French convention having issued a declaration setting forth the grounds of hostilities, declared war against England and Holland.

2. An order of council directing all aliens to reside within 50 miles of Cornhill, and ten miles distant from the sea coasts and dock-yards.

5. An embargo on French vessels.

8. The empress of Russia interdicted all intercourse between her subjects and France.

11. A message from the king announced the declaration of war by France. Next day the message was debated. The ostensible grounds of war were alleged to be the opening of the Scheldt, the exclusive navigation of which had been guaranteed to the Dutch by treaty; second, the fraternizing decree of November 19th; and third, the danger to Europe from the progress of the French arms. The restoration of monarchy in France was the declared aim of the

allies, and was alleged to be, though not avowed, that of the English ministers.

12. The common council of London unanimously agreed to address the king, assuring him of their loyalty and support.

13. Sir John Scott appointed attorney-general, and John Mitford, esq., solicitor-general.

15. Plan of a new constitution presented to the French convention, drawn up by Condorcet, and founded on pure republican principles; it was deemed impracticable by all parties, and laid aside, in consequence of which the executive authority continued vested in the convention.

17. Dumourier invaded Holland.

18. RESOLUTIONS OF THE OPPOSITION.—Mr. Fox brought forward five resolutions stating the specific grounds on which the opposition differed from ministers as to the necessity of war. 1. That England was not justified in going to war with France on account of her internal affairs. 2. That the complaints against France might have been obviated by further negotiation. 3. That ministers had never distinctly stated the terms on which they would be disposed to persevere in a system of neutrality. 4. That the rights of independent nations, and the tranquillity of Europe, had been supinely neglected by ministers in regard to Poland. 5. That it is the duty of ministers not to form any engagements which may be an obstacle to a separate peace with France, or which may imply that England is acting in concert with other powers, for the unjustifiable object of dictating a form of government to France. A vehement debate ensued on these propositions. On the side of Fox were Grey, Sheridan, Whitbread, Jekyll, Adams, Lambton, Smith, and Maitland; on the side of Pitt were Burke, Jenkinson, Dundas, Powys, Hill, Basset, Cornwall, Houghton, and Windham. The House divided on the previous question—ayes 270; noes 44. Resolutions lost by a majority of 226. In the lords, the war policy of ministers was chiefly supported by lords Grenville, Darnley, Carlisle, Porchester, Kinnoul, Stormont, and Loughborough; and opposed by Stanhope, Lansdowne, Derby, and Lauderdale.

23. Mr. Holland sentenced to pay a fine of 100*l.* and be imprisoned one year, for publishing Paine's “Address to the Addressers.”

24. Daniel Isaac Eaton tried, but acquitted, for a libel called “Hog's-wash; or Politics for the People.”

26. Three battalions of guards having been first reviewed by the king, embarked at Greenwich for Holland.

Mar. 1. A proclamation for a general fast to be observed in England on the 18th,



and in Scotland on the 19th inst. Also a proclamation offering a pardon to all deserters.

The French under general Miranda compelled to raise the siege of Maestricht.

3. Prince of Saxe Cobourg defeated the French with the loss of 5000 men, under General Valence.

4. The French republic declared war against Spain.

15. Sir John Scott introduced his "Traitorous Correspondence Bill," which prohibited not only the usual intercourse with an enemy (denominated high treason), but also the purchasing lands in France, or investing capital in French funds, and other novelties. It was modified before passed into a law.

17. Dumourier defeated with great loss by the prince of Cobourg; the Austrians in consequence recovered the whole of the Netherlands.

19. DEATH OF MANSFIELD.—This eminent judge was in his 89th year, and had only retired in 1788 from the court of King's-bench, where he had uprightly presided 32 years. He was born at Perth, but was educated and had lived in England since three years of age. His taste was classical; he was fond of letters, an elegant and adroit speaker, and subtle in argument. Dunning used to say of him, that when wrong, the faults of his reasoning were not easily detected, and when right he was wholly irresistible. Too timid for a shining statesman, or even liberal one, his chief field of distinction was in judicial administration. By improvements in practice, and unusual promptitude of decision, he kept his court free of arrears; and though during the American war the number of causes annually disposed of averaged 800, hardly one of his decisions was reversed (*Law Mag. v. 73*). He looked more to justice than strict law in his adjudications, and except in libel cases, he inclined to a liberal interpretation of legal dicta, and their adaptation to existing usage. The growth of commerce brought before him many novel and intricate questions of mercantile rights: these he tried to settle upon general principles; and to him the country is mainly indebted for its commercial law, especially the part of it bearing on contracts and bills of exchange. This celebrated judge left no issue. The bulk of his fortune, which was very considerable, comprising upwards of 26,000*l.* a year on mortgages, besides property otherwise invested, descended with his title, to his nephew, lord Stormont. Mansfield was favourable to religious liberty, and was among the sufferers by the No Popery riots: he refused to receive, though offered, any public compensation

for the destruction of his house and furniture.

20. A Liverpool privateer under sail overset and sunk in the Mersey by a gust of wind, owing to her guns being on the lee-side.

25. A treaty of commerce concluded with Russia for six years by lord Grenville.

27. Dumourier in a conference with the Austrian colonel Mack, at Ath, forms a design to march on Paris, to re-establish the constitutional monarchy of 1791.

30. Ostend taken possession of by the English, under general Macbride.

A bill passed the Irish house of commons for admitting Roman Catholics to the elective franchise.

FRENCH DECREES.—In the course of this month, a revolutionary tribunal was established at Paris, for the trial of political offences; it consisted of six judges chosen from the convention, and became an instrument of blood. The convention finding the ties of property loosened by the confiscation of regal, ecclesiastical, and hereditary property, passed a decree denouncing the punishment of death against any one who should propose an Agrarian law, or attempt to injure territorial, commercial, or personal property. Another decree of the 29th inst. punished with death all who wrote in favour of monarchy.

Apr. 1. Dumourier arrests the deputies sent to arrest him, and delivers them up to the Austrians as hostages for the safety of the Bourbons.

2. Le Brun, the French minister, applied to lord Grenville for a passport for a person invested with full powers to treat for peace: to this application no answer was returned.

4. The French army indignant at the treachery of Dumourier, he had a narrow escape to the Austrians, accompanied by general Valence and young Egalité (Philip present king of France), son of the duke of Orleans. Next day Dumourier issued a proclamation to the French army, recapitulating his services; it was accompanied by a manifesto from prince Cobourg, renouncing all views of conquest and limiting his intervention to the establishment of the constitution of 1791.

7. Committee of Public Safety established at Paris to prevent conspiracy and insurrection.

8. A grand council held at Antwerp, at which were present the duke of York, count Metternich, prince Cobourg, lord Auckland, and the Prussian and Spanish ministers. Here the plan of operations was changed, and the promises in Cobourg's manifesto of the 5th inst. rescinded.

12. Richard Phillips, afterwards sheriff of London, the printer of the Leicester Herald, convicted at the Leicester sessions

of selling Paine's *Rights of Man*, was sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment.

The Bank of England began to issue 5*l*. notes.

15. Died at his apartments, New Inn, aged 59, Forster Powell, the celebrated pedestrian. He was a native of Horsforth near Leeds, and had been articled to an attorney. His favourite walking journey was from London to York and back, which he performed four times, each in less than six days, though the severe exertion of the last, in 1792, is supposed to have hastened his death.

25. **COMMERCIAL CREDIT BILL.**—The spirit of commercial speculation, and the vast extension of paper currency, having produced great mercantile embarrassments, Mr. Pitt moved for a select committee to take the subject into consideration. From its report the minister moved for an issue of five millions of exchequer bills, to be advanced, under certain regulations, to those who should apply for such assistance, and give security for the repayment of them, at a fixed time.

29. A French privateer, with her prize, the Spanish register ship *San Jago*, was captured, having on board 694 cases of silver, each containing 3000 dollars; 33 cases of gold, besides plate and jewels value 500,000*l*.; 16 cases of silver in bars; 2,262 quintals of bark, exclusive of other valuables. The cargo had been two years in collecting in South America, and was supposed to be worth upwards of 1,200,000*l*.

May 6. **PARLIAMENTARY REFORM.**—Mr. Charles Grey brought forward his celebrated motion for a reform in the national representation. Numerous petitions had been previously presented to the house in favour of this measure. That from Sheffield was signed by 8,000 names; from Norwich by 3,700; from Birmingham by 2,700; from Huddersfield by 1000; from London and Westminster by 6000; but the most remarkable one was from the Society of the Friends of the People, presented by Mr. Grey himself. It occupied fully half an hour in the reading, and excited a strong sensation by the ability it evinced, and the elaborate analysis it gave of the incongruities in the parliamentary system. The prayer of this petition was to remove these incongruities, restore triennial parliaments, and lessen the expenses of elections. Among the facts stated and offered to be proved, were, that 71 peers, by direct nomination or influence, returned 163 members, and 91 commoners 139 members: thus in England and Wales only (exclusive of the 45 for Scotland) 302 members, being a decided majority of the commons, were returned by 162 individuals (*Ann. Reg.* xxxv. 96). These disclosures

made a deep impression, and continued to work on the public mind. Till at length the honourable mover, thirty-seven years after, was enabled, seconded by the general voice, and in the high station of premier, to remove the more revolting discrepancies. But the alarm occasioned by the disturbing aspect of the French revolution prevented any immediate effect, and the motion for a committee of inquiry, opposed by Pitt, Jenkinson, Windham, and Burke, was negatived by 282 to 41 voices.

8. James Ridgway and H. D. Symonds, booksellers, were brought into the court of King's-bench to receive judgment for selling Paine's works, and the "Jockey Club." They were fined and severally sentenced to four years' imprisonment in Newgate.

The French defeated near St. Amand, and general Dampierre mortally wounded; in this battle the British under the duke of York severely suffered.

13. Robert Mackreth, M.P., sentenced to pay a fine of 100*l*. and to six weeks' imprisonment, for challenging the solicitor-general (Scott) to fight a duel.

23. The French defeated, and the allies enabled to lay siege to Valenciennes.

27. John Frost tried before lord Kenyon, and found guilty of uttering seditious expressions at the Percy coffee-house, Rathbone place. The seditious words were, "I am for equality; I see no reason why one man should be greater than another; I would have no king, and the constitution of the country is a bad one." Mr. Frost was sentenced to be struck off the roll of attorneys, to be imprisoned six months, to stand in the pillory, and give security for his good behaviour.

31. On the motion of sir John Sinclair, an address to the king was agreed to, for the establishment of a Board of Agriculture.

The Neapolitan ambassador, who had just arrived at his hotel in Jermyn street, put an end to his existence by a pistol.

**GIRONDINS AND JACOBINS.**—The contest between the two republican parties which divided the convention, the Brissotins or Girondins, and the Mountain or Jacobins, had now reached a crisis. The former as the most moderate, fell into suspicion among the people, excited by the inflammatory publications of their opponents. Up to the 31st inst. the successive sittings of the convention had exhibited a sad spectacle of violence and tumult. Early on the morning of that day the tocsin was sounded, the *général* beaten, and the alarm gun fired. Deputations appeared at the bar of the convention demanding, among other things, the arrest of the ministers Claviere and Le Brun, and of the principal Girondins, Barrère, who had



with great address oscillated between the factions, now took a decided part with the Jacobins, and in the name of the Committee of Public Safety proposed that the accused deputies should be suspended from their functions. Next day the tumults were renewed; the hall of the assembly was surrounded with an armed multitude, and cannon planted in the avenues. The convention being no longer free in its deliberations, the president and some of the members attempted to make their escape and separate; but Henriot, at the head of the Parisian guards, threatened them with a discharge of musketry if they did not return. So coerced, a decree passed for the arrest of Brissot, and other deputies of the Gironde party. By this triumph all power became vested in the Jacobins, directed by Robespierre, Danton, and Marat. Within about a month after, a constitution was promulgated, consisting of 124 articles, recognizing, in full extravagance, the doctrine of equality. Population was made the sole basis of representation, the election of members annual, and the suffrage universal. But the constitution of 1793 was never acted upon, it was suspended during the revolutionary crisis, the better to enable the convention to adopt the energetic measures essential to the safety of the republic.

June 5. Daniel Eaton found guilty of publishing, but without criminal intention, Paine's Rights of Man.

12. Saumier taken by the royalists of La Vendée; soon after Angers.

Colonel Dundas and R. Dundas, son of the secretary, stopped near Dartford by eight footpads; Mr. Dundas shot one of the robbers, who then opened the chaise-door and discharged a pistol into the body of colonel Dundas; they next plundered the two gentlemen and went off, carrying along with them their wounded companion.

14. Dumourier apprised lord Grenville of his arrival in London: he was ordered to quit the kingdom in 48 hours. Dumourier had thought of acting the part of general Monk, by restoring the monarchy; but the army being faithful to the revolution, he failed in his enterprise. He had been a soldier of fortune all his life; possessed brilliant talents, but was dissolute, volatile, and unprincipled; resembling in many points our own clever sir Walter Raleigh.

20. The royalists make an unsuccessful attack upon Nantz; they crossed the Loire, and under Stofflet and Larochejacquelin retreated through Brittany to the sea-coast, expecting succours from England.

The society of arts granted their gold medal to Mr. Barber of Barnstaple, for growing the greatest quantity of potatoes for sheep.

July 2. Duke of Portland installed chancellor of the University of Oxford with great pomp.

10. A bill passed the Irish parliament against unlawful assemblies and conventions.

13. Jean Paul Marat, a ferocious leader of the Jacobins, assassinated in a bathing machine, by Charlotte Corday, who came to Paris purposely to execute this deed. She denied having any accomplice; declared herself a true republican, and expressed great satisfaction in having rid her country of "its most dangerous enemy." Marat was of doubtful courage, vain, and cynical; like several of the phrenzied demagogues of the period, he had been in the service of the noblesse, and held the post of veterinary-surgeon to the count d'Artois. His natural enthusiasm, inflamed by the course of the revolution, rose to delirium, and he set up a journal entitled the "People's Friend," in which with wolfish fury he inculcated murder, revolt, and pillage. "Give me," said he, "200 Neapolitans, the knife in their right hand, in their left a *muff*, to serve for a buckler, and with these I will traverse France and complete the revolution." He wrote and spoke with facility, in a diffuse, bold, and incoherent manner. He was in his 49th year, and very diminutive in stature. Charlotte Corday, proud of what she deemed a patriotic mission, met her death with unshrinking fortitude.

22. Mentz surrendered to the Prussians.

Lyons, Marseilles, and Toulon, entered into a league to dissolve the convention; several of the accused Brissotins making their escape to different parts of the country, tried to raise commotions.

26. Valenciennes surrendered to the allies, commanded by the duke of York.

Aug. 1. A decree passed the convention for the arrest of all foreigners, subjects of powers at war with the republic.

4. A meeting of political delegates at Edinburgh, for obtaining universal suffrage and annual parliaments; they dated their resolutions in the first year of the "British convention," established committees of organization, secrecy and finance; and instituted primary and provincial assemblies, after the model of the French.

15. LEVEE EN MASSE.—The Committee of Public Safety had made such energetic exertions, that the French had now fourteen armies in the field, and 1,022,902 men actually embodied. On the 15th Barrère introduced a project for a *levée en masse*; it allowed of no substitutes, and was the origin of that formidable instrument of military power, the conscription.

18. French defeated at Lincelles by the British under general Lake.

21. Lyons besieged by the republicans.

28. Toulon surrendered to lord Hood.

30. SCOTTISH REFORMERS.—The trials of Muir and Palmer excited a strong interest in Scotland, from their talents and respectability, Mr. Muir being a promising young advocate at the Scottish bar, and Mr. Palmer a unitarian minister of Dundee. The weightiest charge against Muir was that of lending a copy of Paine's Rights of Man to a person who "begged a reading of that popular book." He was tried on the 30th, and sentenced to fourteen years' transportation. Mr. Palmer was tried at Perth, on the 17th of the ensuing month; he was charged with publishing a seditious address, and sentenced to seven years' transportation. At the close of December, Dr. Skirving and Messrs. Margarot and Gerrald were apprehended at a meeting of the reform delegates at Edinburgh, and tried on similar charges of seditious practices, and sentenced to fourteen years' transportation. These severe sentences, inflicted under an old Scottish statute, on the vague charge of sowing discord between the king and people, caused general astonishment. In the conduct of the trials there were great irregularities, not to say injustice; the Scottish judges being more of political partisans than impartial umpires; the chief witnesses against the accused were government spies; and the juries were selected from a political association of *Life-Fortune-Men*—of goldsmiths' hall.

Sept. 1. A marble bust of John Milton the poet, by Bacon, erected in Cripplegate church.

2. Board of agriculture instituted surveys into the state of agriculture in Britain.

8. The French having collected a powerful force, compelled the English to raise the siege of Dunkirk with precipitation, leaving behind them their battering train. Houchard being denounced before the Committee of Public Safety, for not cutting off the retreat of the British, lost his head; generals Custine and Luckner met the same fate.

20. NEW FRENCH CALENDAR.—By this the year was divided into twelve months of 30 days each, all denominated from some occurrence of the season, and to complete the year five supplemental days were added, absurdly termed *sans culotides*. The subdivisions of the months were into three decades, the first days of which were festivals or days of rest, intended apparently to obliterate the memory of the Christian sabbath. A few days after, the municipal authorities of Paris appeared in the convention, attended by the bishop and clergy, decorated with caps of liberty, who publicly renounced their offices of Christian pastors.

The bishop of Moulins threw down his mitre and preached the doctrine, that "Death is an eternal sleep." Various allegorical creations, such as Liberty and Equality, were deified, and a young woman was enshrined as the Goddess of Reason on the altar of Notre Dame, to receive, in place of Jesus Christ, the crossings and genuflexions of the multitude.

30. A furious riot at Bristol, owing to the erection of a new toll-gate on the bridge; the military being called in, twelve persons were killed and fifty wounded; the riot still continuing, the Bristolians agreed to raise the money necessary to complete the bridge, by other means than a toll.

Oct. 8. Lyons, after a two months' siege, surrendered to the republicans, and there are few examples, even in civil war, of more vindictive cruelty. The guillotine being deemed too slow an engine of destruction, crowds were driven into the Rhone, or butchered in the squares, by discharges of grape-shot. Barrère sent a flaming account to the convention, which decreed that the walls and public buildings of the city should be razed, and Lyons henceforth called *La Ville Affranchie*.

12. St. Domingo placed itself under the protection of the English, who took possession of Nicola Mole.

13. The Austrians under Wurmser defeated the French under Isembert at Landau; Isembert was charged with treachery, and shot.

26. The late queen of France, after a mock trial before the revolutionary tribunal, was beheaded, and her body interred in the same manner with that of her husband, in a grave filled with quick lime. Maria Antoinette possessed both talents and virtues; but proud, indiscreet, vindictive, rash, and petulant, she had exercised a political influence that hastened the fall of the monarchy. It is related of her, that when laid on the fatal block, she turned her head aside to take a last look at the Tuileries. This accomplished woman, a model of grace and beauty, was in her 38th year, and sister of Leopold II. late emperor of Germany.

29. Brissot and 21 other deputies of the Gironde brought before the revolutionary tribunal. They were found guilty of exciting the rebellion of the Federalists against the convention in the south. They were next day beheaded, with the exception of Valaise, who stabbed himself when sentence was pronounced. On the scaffold they evinced neither weakness nor apostacy, but died heroically in the republican faith. They were the true representatives of liberty, men of enlightened minds, of patriotic sentiments and moderate principles, but who necessarily gave way to those men



of violence, who, rising out of the molten lead of the revolution, were perhaps better fitted by their furious fanaticism and disregard of ordinary feelings, to carry the republic through the dangers that threatened her existence.

Nov. 6. Philip Egalité, the duke of Orleans, beheaded, unpitied by any one. He was in his forty-sixth year, and met death with great seeming indifference. By a remarkable series of events, his son Louis Philip has quietly taken possession of that throne which was the object of his weak and profligate ambition.

8. The celebrated Madame Roland was involved in the fate of the Gironde, and fell beneath the axe of the guillotine. This able and accomplished woman died with Roman fortitude, exclaiming on the scaffold, "O liberty! how many crimes are committed in thy name." Her husband, the late popular minister, who was among the proscribed Brissotins, on learning the fate of his wife, put an end to his existence near Rouen. Petion, another Girondin, whose republicanism was proof against the fascinations of the queen of France, in the return from Varennes, (*Campan's Memoirs*, ii. 150,) also perished violently; he was found in the fields half devoured by wolves, and is supposed to have expired of hunger.

12. Bailly, late mayor of Paris, beheaded. He was a man of science, virtue, and patriotism, and president of the Constituent Assembly, and the first to take the famous oath which Mounier dictated in the tennis court,—“never to separate till they had obtained a free constitution.”

15. Lotteries suppressed in France.

21. The French army of the Moselle, commanded by Hoche, defeated the Austrians under Wurmser.

26. Robinson the bookseller, of Paternoster row, received judgment for selling Paine's writings.

27. Rev. Mr. Winterbotham, a dissenting minister, tried at the Devon assizes for preaching two seditious sermons, and sentenced to four years' imprisonment, exclusive of fines and securities.

Dec. 1. By order of the commune of Paris, all the churches were shut; this extravagance excited such public marks of abhorrence, that it was speedily reversed, and the freedom of religious worship restored.

Barnave, a young and eloquent advocate, with four other members of the convention, was guillotined. Barnave, like the Lameths, Dupont, and others, gave an impulse to the revolution and then deserted it; both him and the Lameths, M. Thiers says, did “what they reproached Mirabeau for doing—they secretly lent their aid to the throne, and reconciled themselves with the court.”

Manuel, who defended the late king with zeal and talent, fell a victim to Jacobin rage and apprehension.

5. The duke of Sussex married at the parish church of St. George Hanover square, to lady Augusta Murray, daughter of the countess of Dunmore. This marriage was annulled at the suit of the king.

19. EVACUATION OF TOULON.—This town being no longer defensible against the superior force of the enemy, it was evacuated, and upwards of 14,000 of the inhabitants took shelter on board the British ships. Sir Sidney Smith set fire to the arsenals, which, together with an immense quantity of naval stores, and fifteen ships of the line, were consumed. It inflicted a severe blow on the French navy, and inculpated in no small degree the federalists, who, to oppose the rival party of the Jacobins, had called to their aid a foreign and hostile power. Dugommier entered Toulon on the 19th, after a bombardment of twelve hours; the artillery was commanded by Napoleon Buonaparte, who had evinced great zeal and ability.

Muir and Palmer, the Scottish reformers, arrived in a revenue cutter from Leith. An order was immediately sent down to place them on board separate hulks at Woolwich. They were put in irons, and assisted in the common labour on the banks of the river.

20. The first ambassador from the Porte made his public entry into London.

Nearly 2000 persons died this year in Philadelphia of the yellow fever.

FRANCE.—The year closed, leaving the power of France more formidable than at the commencement. Except the destruction of her navy at Toulon, she had sustained no important reverses; while the Imperialists were driven beyond the Rhine, the Prussians compelled to retire to Mentz, and the English to raise the siege of Dunkirk. Internally her power had become more consolidated by the fall of the Girondins, the defeat of their adherents in the south, and of the royalists in La Vendée. All authority was concentrated in the Jacobins, who with much popular address inspired the people with intense enthusiasm; they crowded en masse to the armies, forming an impassable cordon of armed republicans round the frontier. The winter was spent in energetic preparations for the ensuing campaign, and in organizing the vast physical force that had been roused into action.

POLAND.—The courts of Russia and Prussia determined on a further partition, on the pretext of the growing jacobinical party in Poland. It was in vain the diet protested against this second dismemberment of their country, and implored the

assistance of the other European powers. It was obliged to negotiate with its spoilers, and surrender to Prussia territories occupied by 1,136,000 inhabitants, and to Russia, as much as contained 3,500,000.

**ANNUAL OBITUARY.**—Mrs. Griffiths, author of the "Letters between Henry and Frances." Aged 36, W. Austin, M.D., whose professional practice is said to have been 4000*l.* a year. The earl of Barrymore, by the accidental discharge of his musket, while stepping into his gig. William Hudson, author of the "Flora Anglica." In Newgate, where he had many years been confined for libel, lord George Gordon, known for his share in the anti-Catholic riots of 1780. Richard Tickell, commissioner of the stamp-office, and author of the "Carnival of Venice," &c. William Robertson, D.D. 73, the celebrated modern historian. John Hunter, surgeon-general to the army, 65, an eminent anatomist and writer on medical subjects.

**A.D. 1794. PUBLIC OPINION.**—A portion of the British community still continued warm admirers of the French revolution, as a means of diffusing general liberty, and attributed the enormities by which it was disgraced to the aggression of the coalesced powers. But a much more considerable portion (*Ann. Reg.* xxxvi. 179) viewed with alarm and detestation the establishment of a republic in France; considering its existence incompatible with internal peace and the safety of the constitution. In this view doubtless the government coincided, though the re-establishment of the French monarchy was not one of the avowed objects of hostilities. Meanwhile, to counteract the schemes of the disaffected, a system of extreme watchfulness and coercion was introduced. Spies were actively at work throughout the kingdom, and a series of relentless and crushing persecutions instituted against persons who made themselves conspicuous as political partisans, or the disseminators of seditious writings and speeches. Among the victims which signalized the commencement of the first month of the new year, were the conviction of Skirving and Margarot at Edinburgh, and of Hamilton Rowan at Dublin.

**Jan. 1.** The French convention abolished flogging in the army and navy, and substituted other punishments less derogatory to freemen. The armies having in several instances been betrayed by their officers, another decree declared that every general convicted of treason should be executed at the head of the troops he had attempted to betray.

**16.** Died in his 68th year, EDWARD GIBBON, the celebrated Roman historian. This eminent person had left his favourite

retirement at Lausanne, partly on account of the French revolution, whose progress he viewed with uneasiness and aversion. It was as a man of letters Mr. Gibbon derived his chief distinction; as a politician and public man, he was servile and aristocratical. A member of parliament during lord North's disastrous administration, he wore the ministerial yoke on the lowest terms of promotion or emolument, and never seemed to ascend to the dignity of patriotism, or even of principle.

**17.** A motion made but negatived in the assembly of New York, to abolish the use of the titles of excellency, honourable, and esquire, as inconsistent with the "plainness of republican manners."

**21. PARLIAMENT met.** In the royal speech hopes were held out that the resources of France would be speedily exhausted. An augmentation of the navy to 85,000, was unanimously agreed to. In recommending the augmentation of the regular army to 60,000 men, Mr. Pitt said "France had been converted into an armed nation;" an expression much commented upon:

**Feb. 2.** On bringing forward the supplies, Mr. Pitt stated the interior strength of the kingdom at 140,000 men, and the foreign troops in British pay at 40,000. The total supply for the year was estimated at 20 millions; the ways and means included some new taxes, and a loan of 11 millions. The double taxation to which Roman Catholics had long been subjected was abolished.

**3.** Their majesties going to the Haymarket theatre, the rush was so great that fifteen persons were trampled to death.

**4.** The severe sentences passed on Muir and Palmer brought under the notice of the house of commons, and a motion made to assimilate the law of sedition in Scotland to that of England. Negatived by 126 to 31.

**13.** Canal of Merthyr Tydvil opened.

**17.** Lord Lansdowne made a pacific motion in the lords, in which he strongly deprecated the folly of "making war against principles." Negatived by 103 to 13.

Slavery abolished in the French West India islands. To attest the sincerity of their aspirations for universal liberty, without distinction of colour or clime, there were admitted to seats in the convention three deputies from St. Domingo as representatives of that colony, two of whom were mulattoes and one a negro.

A scarcity prevailing in France, a *maximum* was fixed to the prices of the necessities of life. It was applauded by the Jacobins, either from a mistaken opinion, or love of popularity, as setting bounds to avarice and monopoly (*Ann. Reg.* xxxvi. 110.)



*Mar.* Measures introduced for augmenting the militia, and for raising volunteers and voluntary subscriptions for the war.

13. Mr. Gerrald convicted of sedition, and sentenced to be transported for 14 years.

Prussia, weary of the expenses entailed by the war, seceded from the coalition against France.

23. Martinique surrendered to the British forces commanded by sir Charles Grey.

25. Hebert, Anacharsis Cloots, and 18 others, fell victims to Robespierre. They were the chiefs of the *CORDELIER CLUB*, the most wild of the revolutionary fanatics, advocating not only extreme equality, but an Agrarian law, and the abolition of Christianity.

28. J. B. V. Guillotine, M.D., beheaded at Lyons. He was the inventor or reviver of the guillotine by which he suffered, and which he said he had produced to the world from motives of humanity alone.

An action being brought against a reviewer, it was decided that fair criticism is allowable, provided it does not travel into matter irrelevant and personally injurious to an author.

**DEATH OF CONDORCET.**—This eminent person was among the proscribed Brissotins, and for nine months had been trying to escape from the creatures of Robespierre; but falling into their hands, he terminated his existence by poison. He was the author of many scientific and literary works of distinguished ability. Like several of his colleagues in the first scenes of the revolution, he relied too exclusively on the power of reason undisturbed by human passions. He was in his 51st year. Condorcet was as intolerant in his philosophy as some bigots in their religion; and being naturally timid, madame Roland said, "he ought only to have been employed to write, not to act."

*Apr. 2.* Mr. Walker, of Manchester, tried for high treason, and acquitted.

**EXECUTION OF DANTON.**—This reckless demagogue, who had joined in the destruction of the Cordeliers, soon himself fell a victim to the jealousy of Robespierre. In his fate was involved that of Camille Desmoulins, a man of spirit and ability; Séchelles, the president of the convention on the overthrow of the Girondins; general Westerman, who commanded the popular insurrection, August 10, 1792; Gobat, the Parisian bishop who had renounced his religion; La Croix, Fabre d'Eglantine, Chabot, an ex-capuchin, and some others. The charge against them was an attempt to restore the monarchy. Their real aim was probably to subvert a rival faction, or mitigate the excessive severity of the reign of terror. Danton was in his thirty-fourth year;

of athletic form, of undoubted courage, a powerful orator, and of a generous but capricious nature. He was by profession an advocate; profligate and unprincipled, like Mirabeau; and, like him, had taken the money of the court (*Lafayette's Memoirs*) while ostensibly devoted to the people. The only weakness Danton betrayed was an abortive attempt to conciliate his gloomy and relentless destroyer. This error he redeemed by his subsequent demeanour. Being questioned on his trial, according to the usual forms, respecting his name and abode,—“My name,” said he, “will live in history, but my abode will soon be nowhere.” He foretold the destruction of his enemies in six months. Only three hours elapsed between the conviction of Danton and his associates and their decapitation.

4. Kosciusko, having placed himself at the head of the Polish insurrectionists, defeated 6000 Russians.

14. Tumults at the Edinburgh theatre; some of the audience refusing to stand while “God Save the King” was being sung.

17. The common-council of London open a subscription for raising a defensive force for the city, to be called the “Loyal London Volunteers.”

18. Died, in his 81st year, Charles Pratt, earl CAMDEN, lord-president of the council. Bating some political inconsistencies, he was a constitutional and respectable lawyer and statesman. He had acquired a popularity, which he had almost survived, by his opposition to general warrants in the affair of Wilkes, and to American taxation.

27. Died, at Calcutta, aged 48, sir WILLIAM JONES, one of the judges of the supreme court of judicature; a gentleman highly esteemed for his liberal sentiments, amiable qualities, and varied literary attainments.

28. The subsidy-treaties with Prussia and other powers debated in the house of commons.

*May 2.* A reward of 1000*l.* offered for the apprehension of Hamilton Rowan, who had escaped from the imprisonment to which he had been condemned for seditious practices,

7. At the instigation of Robespierre, the convention passed a decree, *recognising* the existence of a Supreme Being, and the immortality of the soul.

12. Elizabeth, sister of Louis XVI., beheaded on a charge of attempting to effect a counter-revolution. She was thirty years old, and met death with resignation, along with 24 other victims, not one of whom she knew.

A message from the king to parliament

announced the existence of seditious societies. Several members of the Society for Constitutional Information and of the London Corresponding Society were apprehended on a charge of high treason, and committed to the Tower. Among the arrests were Thomas Hardy and Daniel Adams, secretaries to political societies; John Horne Tooke; Mr. Stone, a coal-merchant; rev. Jeremiah Joyce, private secretary to earl Stanhope; John Augustus Bonney, an attorney; and Messrs. Thelwall, Richter, and Lovatt.

23 Habeas-corpus Act suspended.

26. The convention, on the suggestion of Barrère, decreed that no quarter should be given to British and Hanoverian troops; but the French armies refused to execute it.

30. Resolutions moved in parliament, by the duke of Bedford and Mr. Fox, expressive of a wish for peace.

June 1. Lord Howe obtained a great victory, in the Bay of Biscay, over the French fleet of 26 sail of the line, which the British engaged with 25 sail. Several ships were captured; one of which sunk almost immediately on being taken possession of. *Le Jacobin* went down, and not a man of her crew, who cheered in sinking, was saved. In the captured ships alone, the killed and wounded amounted to 1270. The total loss of the British was 904.

8. Corsica united to England.

13. London illuminated three nights, in celebration of Howe's victory. The mob broke the windows of several persons, particularly lord Stanhope, for refusing to illuminate.

18. Mr. Pelham erected a mausoleum near Brocklesby, in Lincolnshire, to the memory of his wife, which cost 30,000*l*.

26. Battle of Fleurus, in which Jourdan completely defeated the allies, under Cobourg, forcing them to retreat to Halle, 30 miles distant. Brussels and Charleroi were the immediate fruits of this victory. At this battle the French made the new art of aerostation auxiliary to their military triumphs: general Morlot ascending in a balloon, whence he could perceive the slightest movements of the imperialists, which he instantly telegraphed.

A war of extermination began against the Maroons, in the island of Jamaica. Blood-hounds and Spanish chasseurs were employed against them by the governor, lord Balcarras.

July 8. Earl Moira, after forcing his way through the enemy, joined the duke of York in Flanders, with a reinforcement of 10,000 men.

13. Terrible fire in Ratcliffe-highway: the bakehouse of alderman Curtis, and upwards of 600 houses, consumed.

15. Moreau compelled the imperialists to recross the Rhine, and the Prussians to retreat to Mentz.

25. The adventurous Frederick Baron Trenck, so well known for the cruel imprisonment he suffered at the instance of Frederick II. of Prussia, beheaded at Paris. The baron was in his 68th year, and one of the 1200 victims of the reign of terror, sacrificed on the vague charge of conspiracy.

27. FALL OF ROBESPIERRE.—The destruction of so many of the revolutionists, eminent for abilities and their services to the republic, paved the way for the destruction of Robespierre himself. Every victim he sacrificed only served to multiply his objects of suspicion and vengeance. By a decree he had procured to be passed, of the 9th of June, the members of the convention were made liable to be brought before the revolutionary tribunal on the accusation of the Committee of Public Safety. Tallien, Bourdon de l'Oise, Barrère, Freiron, Fouché, and other deputies, who had heretofore been the accomplices of Robespierre, but who were suspected of peculation in their provincial missions, became apprehensive of exposure by the dictator, who was himself totally free from pecuniary corruption. They communicated their fears to the convention, who passed a counter-decree, re-establishing the inviolability of the deputies. Finding his power on the decline, Robespierre tried to sustain his popularity by bringing forward useful measures: one for the speedy payment of prize-money; a second to prevent the importation of forged assignats; a third to reward military merit; and a fourth for the relief of the poor and the prevention of mendicity. These artifices did not arrest the progress of the party which had begun to be formed against him in the convention, and consisting of some of its most able and resolute members. On the 27th inst. his arbitrary and murderous proceedings were openly denounced by Tallien, supported by Billaud-Varennes and Barrère. Robespierre and his partisans, after vainly trying to obtain a hearing, withdrew to the Hotel-de-Ville. Their dependence was on the clubs, the sections of Paris, and the national-guard. Meanwhile, the convention evinced the utmost firmness and energy. Decrees were passed, declaring their sitting permanent till justice had been executed on the guilty. Robespierre and his accomplices were declared outlaws and traitors; Barras and Legendre were appointed to command the military in their interest, and deputies were sent to different parts of the capital, to exhort the people to arm and assemble in defence of their representatives. The



other party were not idle. Henriot, the right-hand man of Robespierre, and commander of the national-guard, surrounded the convention with his troops. But immediately the decree of outlawry against himself and colleagues became known, his soldiers began to desert, and he himself took refuge in the Hotel-de-Ville. Here, during the night, they were vigorously assaulted by the conventionalists, headed by Bourdon de l'Oise. The Jacobins, finding all lost, attempted to turn their arms against themselves. Robespierre discharged a pistol into his mouth, but with no other effect than to disfigure his face; his brother threw himself out of a window; Couthon stabbed himself, but not mortally; only Lebas shot himself dead on the spot. Robespierre; St. Just; Fleuriot, mayor of Paris; Vivres, president of the Jacobin club, and the rest of the criminals, to the number of twenty-one, outlawed by the convention, being identified before the revolutionary tribunal, were in the course of the next evening executed, amidst general acclamations. Robespierre suffered last—a frightful spectacle, covered with clotted blood and dirt, and wounded in two places. He was only in his 34th year, and one of the many prodigies of this extraordinary revolution. Like other men, he must be judged by his acts, not his professed intentions, and these show that he was ferocious, proud, subtle, vindictive, envious, and deceitful. He was, however, disinterested: he was poor, and died so, his whole effects at his death selling only for two hundred and forty livres. Moreover, he was consistent; never flinching from the extreme democracy with which he first allied himself, unless the destruction of the Cordeliers and Dantonists were deviations; and these he immolated with as little scruple as Cromwell did the Presbyterians and Levellers when they stood in the way of his ambition. The glory of preserving to France her nationality he shared with others, but hardly in an equal degree. It was the energetic decrees of Barrère that called into action the masses; equality filled them with enthusiasm, and the military genius of Carnot organised victory. By these the country was saved, the Vendéans discomfited, the ill-timed insurrection of the Girondins suppressed, and the destroyers of Poland driven from the frontiers. According to M. Thiers, Robespierre was “an honest fanatic,” but beneath the mission which he supposed himself called to fill. After his fall a milder administration was attempted, conciliation was substituted in place of terror, the meetings of the Jacobin club were suspended, and the revolutionary tribunal remodelled. The Jacobins had

obtained an ascendancy by courting the multitude, and precautions were sought to be taken against the recurrence of a like domination, by the circumscription of popular immunities.

*Aug. 1.* The government loan, for the relief of commercial credit, appears to have answered its purpose; 2,202,000*l.* were advanced, and the public realized a profit of 4,348*l.*, after defraying the expenses of the commission.

The Spaniards defeated both on the eastern and western Pyrenees by the French.

15. A young man being killed in trying to escape from a recruiting-house in the vicinity of Charing-cross, the mob rose to demolish it.

17. Telegraph invented by the French.

30. French retake Condé and Valenciennes.

*Sept. 3.* Robert Watt tried at Edinburgh for treason, found guilty, and in the ensuing month was executed. Watt had been a government spy, in confidential communication with secretary Dundas and the lord-advocate, who thought fit to abandon him to his fate. David Downie, another spy, was convicted, but pardoned.

15. Duke of York compelled to retreat across the Maese and Waal, before the superior force of general Pichegru, amounting to 80,000. Breda, Bois-le-Duc, Maestricht, and Nimeguen, successively yielded to the republicans.

20. At Shrewsbury assizes two young gentlemen recovered an estate worth 150,000*l.*, which had been possessed by a Mrs. Lloyd for 20 years.

27. *DART PLOT.*—Le Maitre, apprentice to a watchmaker, and two others, apprehended on charge of a design to kill the king. It was deposed, by the informer Upton, that an instrument was to have been constructed in the form of a walking-stick, through which a poisoned arrow was to have been *blown* at his majesty by Le Maitre. The evidence, however, was found not more consistent and probable than that of Titus Oates; and, after a long imprisonment, the accused were discharged.

29. Pichegru crossed the Roer, and, after severe fighting, forced the Austrians, under Clairfait, to retreat with the loss of 13,000 men.

General Massena completely defeated the Austrians and Sardinians in Piedmont.

*Oct. 10.* Kosciusko defeated in a bloody engagement with the Russians, under Suvarof.

15. A surgeon and a physician convicted and sentenced to two years' imprisonment in Newgate, for having seditious libels in their possession, with intent to publish them.

17. Engagement between the Spaniards

and French. Dugommier was killed by the bursting of a shell in the moment of victory.

23. Coblenz taken by Moreau.

29. STATE TRIALS.—The judges, under a special commission at the Old Bailey, proceeded to arraign the twelve prisoners under a charge of high treason. Mr. Hardy's trial was first entered upon, and the attorney-general, Sir John Scott, occupied nine hours in stating the case for the crown, which he tried to substantiate by the evidence of two government-spies named Taylor and Gosling. The prisoner was ably defended by Erskine and Gibbs; and after an investigation of seven days, pronounced not guilty. Eleven days after, John Horne Tooke was brought to the bar. This gentleman was a political character of long standing, and of high intellectual endowments. He had summoned Mr. Pitt to give evidence, who underwent the ordeal of a searching interrogatory, the object of which was to show that the practices of the reformers in 1794 were precisely of the same import as those of 1780, in which the minister himself had taken part. Mr. Pitt tried to evade a frank confession, on the plea of forgetfulness. Mr. Sheridan was next examined. He gave a straightforward account of the proceedings of the reformers in 1780; upon which Mr. Pitt begged leave to correct his evidence, admitting that he was present at the meetings of delegates from several counties, convened for the attainment of parliamentary reform. The jury deliberated for a few minutes, and returned a verdict of *Not Guilty*. This verdict, like the former, was received with acclamations. John Thelwall was next put upon his trial, and with the same result,—an acquittal. Here the experiment ended; the crown having no better evidence to bring forward, the remaining were dismissed. The termination of these proceedings was received with satisfaction by many supporters of the government, being viewed as an arbitrary attempt to establish cumulative and constructive treason, and to extend the reign of terror, that had begun at Edinburgh, under a detestable system of espionage, to London. It helped still further to exalt the favourable opinion entertained of the protection afforded by the jury-system in state-prosecutions; though it seems, from the testimony of the last survivor of the accused, confirmed by that of under-sheriff Burchell (*Thelwall's Memoirs, by his Widow*, p. 434), that some improper practices were resorted to by the council for the crown to obtain juries more subservient to their purposes.

Nov. 4. EXTINCTION OF POLAND.—General Suvarof, after a desperate resistance,

made himself master of Warsaw. Ten hours after resistance had ceased, the massacre was renewed in the suburb of Praga, and upwards of 20,000 Poles were indiscriminately butchered. Poland, in lieu of France, was “blotted out of the map of Europe,” by the three partitioning powers completing the dismemberment of the kingdom. The Polish chiefs, Kosciusko and Potocki, were sent prisoners to Petersburg, where they were thrown into dungeons; while king Stanislaus himself soon after died in obscurity, in the same capital.

19. Treaty of commerce concluded between Britain and the United States of America, by which the latter conceded the right of search to the belligerents.

Dec. 6. Lord Abingdon convicted of a libel on Mr. Sermon, an attorney of Gray's-inn, in a parliamentary speech of the noble lord, published by his lordship in a newspaper.

10. Earl Fitzwilliam appointed viceroy of Ireland, his lordship being succeeded by the earl of Mansfield as lord-president of the council. Earl Spencer became first-lord of the admiralty; and the earl of Chatham lord-privy-seal.

30. PARLIAMENT opened by the king, who continued to hold out hopes that the enemies' resources would be soon exhausted. Mr. Wilberforce, an intimate friend of the minister, who had supported him in all his measures, moved an amendment to the address, of a pacific tendency, and was supported by Mr. Bankes and sir Richard Hill. Mr. Pitt vindicated the language of the king's speech, which, he said, “did not pledge the house never to make peace with the republican government of France, though he had no idea of a *secure peace* till the return of the monarchy, which he thought the best form of government for all the nations of Europe.” Amendment negatived by 246 to 75.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Dr. John Russell, author of the “History of Ancient and Modern Europe.” At Kinnaird, aged 65, in consequence of a fall down stairs, Mr. Bruce, the celebrated traveller in Abyssinia. Lavoisier, the eminent French chemist, guillotined. Charles Pigott, author of the “Jockey-club.” Mr. Baddeley, the comedian; he left a handsome bequest for his brother-performers at Moulsey. George Colman, patentee of the Haymarket-theatre. Daniel Dancer, one of a family of misers. James Adam, the architect of the Adelphi-terrace and Portland-place.

A.D. 1795. FRANCE AND THE COALITION. The conclusion of the last and the commencement of the present year were signalized by the triumphs of the French arms in every part of Europe, and the dejection



with which their successes had impressed most of the members of the coalition. Exclusively of their continual defeats in the field, they had the mortification of knowing that the war was generally unpopular with their subjects, who considered it undertaken to compel France to revert to a monarchical government. Full of this idea the industrious classes throughout Europe reprobated the confederacy against the French republic, and styled it the "war of kings against the people" (*Annual Register*, xxxvii. 146). In pursuit of their scheme of intervention the allies had been completely baffled by France. The Convention was proud of the pinnacle of glory to which she had been elevated; and, at the close of 1794, they caused to be printed and published a list of their triumphs. Among their conquests were enumerated the Austrian Netherlands and the Seven United Provinces, exclusive of their acquisitions on the Rhine, in Spain, Savoy and Italy. The territories subdued by the republic were the richest and most fertile of the Continent, and computed to contain a population of thirteen millions. In seventeen months they had won twenty-seven pitched battles, besides an innumerable number of inferior actions, in which they had slain 80,000 of their enemies, taken more than 90,000 prisoners; also immense quantities of ammunition and stores, with 3800 pieces of cannon (*Belsh. Hist. Geo. III. v. 241*). These losses induced many powers to withdraw from the confederacy. The duke of Tuscany was the first who seceded. In the course of 1795, Spain, Sweden, Denmark, and the Swiss Cantons acknowledged the French Republic. Prussia first took the English subsidy, and then made peace with the French. England, Russia, Sardinia, Naples, and the Pope, were the remaining confederates. In Britain the war was becoming rapidly unpopular.\* Hostilities had from the first been opposed by a large party, who judged our intervention meddling, and libticide in principle; and this party was now augmented by the secession from government of many who began to despair of a successful issue to the contest, after the defection of our allies, and the victories of the French. Petitions for peace were presented to parliament from the cities of London, Norwich, York and other places, but these were not sufficiently general to produce much effect, and counter-petitions were got up by the partisans of the ministers. Popular discontents were aggravated in the summer by the dearness of provisions, the cruel and illegal practices of crimps for the recruiting service, and the activity of the Corresponding and other political societies.

Jan. 3. Died at Etruria in Staffordshire, in his 64th year, JOSIAH WEDGWOOD, the eminent improver of our earthenware and porcelain manufactures. By his ingenious discoveries and excellent taste, Mr. Wedgwood in a few years turned the current of importation of the finer earthenware into one of exportation. He was the proposer of the Grand Trunk Canal uniting the Mersey and Trent, and subsequently communicating with the Severn. He was liberal to the poor, and of considerable scientific attainments.

10. Pichegru at the head of 70,000 men crossed the Waal, forcing the allies to retreat. Utrecht, Rotterdam, and Dort fell into the hands of the French.

14. Directors of the East India Company prohibited from trading with India in their private capacity.

19. An embargo on Dutch ships.

26. The Stadtholder and his family having made their escape from Holland in an open boat, arrived in London.

Several watchmen and others frozen to death by the severity of the weather.

The lord mayor, aldermen, and livery of London petitioned the house of commons to disclaim any right of interference with the internal government of France.

27. Stadtholderate abolished, and the Batavian republic established under the protection of France. Shortly after the Dutch issued a declaration of the rights of man; but, as an alloy to these advantages, they had to furnish clothing and provisions to their invaders to the amount of 1,400,000*l*.

Feb. 4. A royal message communicated to the house of commons the necessity of a loan for the emperor of Germany. In the discussion that followed, notice was first taken of the misapplication by the king of Prussia of the subsidy granted to him, and which he had employed in effecting his unjust designs on Poland. Mr. Pitt admitted the misapplication of the subsidy by Prussia, but argued that Austria had a deeper interest in the issue of the war. Motion for the loan carried by a great majority.

9. Mr. Gilbert Elliott, the English viceroy, opened the parliament of Corsica.

10. A rapid thaw: the floods, in consequence, did much damage.

A theatre at Madras first opened with the tragedy of "Macbeth."

12. Tuscany made peace with France.

18. Britain concluded a defensive alliance with Russia.

21. Earl Fitzwilliam recalled from the government of Ireland.

23. THE BUDGET. Mr. Pitt brought forward his annual financial statement: 100,000 seamen, and 150,000 landmen, in-

cluding militia, were voted for the ensuing year. The loan proposed was 18,000,000*l.*, for which an equal capital in the three per cents. and 6,000,000*l.* in the four per cents. were created. The expenses incurred by the war, which had lasted no more than two years, were calculated at 50,000,000*l.*

25. A public fast day.

Mar. 1. The regent of Sweden acknowledged the French republic.

The republic concluded a peace with the Vendéans and Chouans.

4. RICHARD BROTHERS, lately a naval lieutenant, apprehended by two king's messengers, and brought before the privy council. Upon examination he was found to be insane; the weak part of the public had been terrified by his pretended prophecies, deduced from the apocalypse, concerning the French revolution and the destruction of London. Brothers styled himself "a nephew of God," and gained a disciple in Mr. Halhead, M.P., who wrote a pamphlet in defence of the veracity of his divine mission.

11. COERCION IN IRELAND. Earl Camden appointed lord-lieutenant of Ireland in the room of earl Fitzwilliam. Upon the departure of Fitzwilliam from Dublin on the 25th inst., the citizens appeared in deep mourning. His appointment to the viceroyship last year was anticipated as the prelude to the removal of the few remaining disabilities of the catholics, and with this view his lordship had proposed to dismiss from office those individuals who had been most conspicuous in opposing emancipation. Amongst them lord chancellor Fitzgibbon, Mr. Beresford, a commissioner of the Irish treasury, and Messrs. Wolfe and Toller, the attorney and solicitor-general. Mr. Beresford was actually dismissed, when a letter arrived from Mr. Pitt, remonstrating against these changes. By the same conveyance earl Fitzwilliam received a dispatch from the duke of Portland, suggesting, for the first time, the doubts of the British cabinet on the expediency of pressing catholic emancipation, and recommending the viceroy to postpone it. This was impossible, Mr. Grattan having already obtained leave to introduce a bill for the removal of catholic disabilities. His excellency replied to his colleagues; he pointed out the danger of retracting; and, with patriotic indignation, refused "to be the person to raise a flame, which nothing but military force could extinguish!" (*Annual Register*, xxxvii. 224.)

Upon this his lordship was recalled. So soon as this was officially known, the Irish house of commons, on the motion of Mr. Connolly, voted the strongest approval of lord Fitzwilliam's conduct, with the single dissenting voice of Mr. Beresford. Ad-

resses followed from all parts of the kingdom, and the people could hardly restrain their indignation at the prospect of coercive measures. A change, however, suddenly came over the legislative part of the nation. Lord Camden reached Dublin on the 31st inst. Less than a fortnight after, a motion of Mr. Grattan's to inquire into the reasons of lord Fitzwilliam's recall was negatived by a considerable majority; and the bill for the relief of catholics subsequently rejected by the same members who had sanctioned its introduction. On this occasion Arthur O'Connor, a young member of the house for the county of Kerry, made an eloquent speech.

24. It appeared at the anniversary of the Royal Humane Society, for the recovery of persons apparently drowned, that the number of persons restored to life amounted to 1169; lives preserved by drags 858; unsuccessful cases 899; total 2926.

April 2. RISING OF THE JACOBINS.—The Girondins after the fall of Robespierre recovered their ascendancy in the convention, and soon after began to avenge themselves on their former opponents. Even some of those deputies who had been instrumental in the overthrow of the dictator, became objects of vengeance, on the charge of participating in his crimes: among them were Barrère, Collot d'Herbois, and Billaud-Varennes. While the trials of these were pending, the mob, incited by the Jacobins, broke into the hall of the convention, calling for bread and the constitution of 1793. The riot, however, was quelled by the armed citizens, and the accused individuals were expatriated to Guiana. Several other members of the Mountain were arrested and imprisoned. A violent insurrection in consequence broke out in the suburb of St. Antoine, which lasted three days, but was ultimately put down by the soldiers of the convention. Disturbances were at the same period created in various parts of France, by the Jacobins on one side, and their rivals on the other, which were not suppressed without bloodshed.

5. Prussia signed a treaty of peace with the French republic, which had thus the satisfaction of being acknowledged by a power that had stood foremost in the confederacy against her. A cessation of hostilities was agreed upon for the north of Germany, which was to be considered neutral ground; and peace was soon afterwards concluded with the landgrave of Hesse and the *Electeur of Hanover*.

8. MARRIAGE OF THE PRINCE OF WALES. The marriage of the prince with the princess Caroline, daughter of the duke of Brunswick, was solemnized with extraor-



dinary magnificence. Considerations of prudence rather than of affection are supposed to have forwarded this union. It appeared, from the inquiries of a parliamentary committee, that the debts of his royal highness amounted to 619,570*l.* Upon which Mr. Pitt proposed that the revenue of the prince should be increased to 125,000*l.*, exclusive of the income of the duchy of Cornwall, estimated at 13,000*l.* a year; and that a proportion of this income should be vested in commissioners, for the liquidation of the debts of the prince. The jointure on the princess to be 50,000*l.* per annum.

14. The remains of the British troops embarked at Bremen for England. They had suffered dreadful privations in their retreat through Flanders, from the severity of the weather and hostility of the Dutch, and were reduced to one-fifth of their original number.

20. The Oxford militia, with loaded muskets, proceeded to Seaford, and seized all the mutton they could find, and sold it at 4*d.* a lb.; they then seized 2000 sacks of flour at Newhaven, and sold it at their own prices: a detachment of the horse artillery arriving, assisted by the Lancashire fencibles, surrounded the rioters. Some disturbances of less note broke out at Nottingham, Coventry, Nuneaton, Hinkley, and Bedworth.

23. **ACQUITTAL OF WARREN HASTINGS.**—On this day the trial of Mr. Hastings was terminated, by the sentence of the house of lords. It began Feb. 12, 1788, having lasted seven years, two months, and eleven days, the last being the 149th day on which the court had sat. Mr. Fox and the other managers came into their box at twelve o'clock. The peers entered the hall half an hour afterwards. The mode of proceeding was to put each of the sixteen articles of charge separately, to a question of guilty or not guilty, beginning with the junior baron. Out of 400 peers, only 29 voted. Of these eight, namely, lord chancellor Loughborough, the duke of Norfolk, the earls of Caernarvon, Radnor, Fitzwilliam, Suffolk, Mansfield, and lord Walsingham, voted guilty on some of the charges; but a majority voting not guilty on each charge, the lord chancellor pronounced as follows:—"Warren Hastings, you are acquitted of all the charges of impeachment brought against you by the commons, and of all the matters contained therein" (*Ann. Reg.* xxxvii. 116). The East India Company paid Mr. Hastings the costs of his trial, amounting to 71,080*l.*, and besides conferred upon him a pecuniary donation, and a pension of 5000*l.* a year. Public interest had evaporated in the length of the proceedings, in which

party spirit had mingled with the pursuit of justice.

30. Rev. J. Jackson, who had been convicted of high treason, was brought into the court of King's-bench, Dublin, to receive judgment; upon which he was seized with strong convulsions, and dropping down in the dock, expired. It appeared by an inquest subsequently held on the body that he had taken poison.

May 4. Mr. Brothers, the prophet, confined in Fisher's lunatic asylum, Islington.

**REVOLUTIONARY TRIBUNAL.**—The members of this terrible instrument of Robespierre's tyranny were called to a severe account. Among the charges brought against them, was that of ordering pregnant women for execution. Such was the mockery of justice, that in one instance they had taken no longer space of time than three hours to try and condemn sixty individuals (*Ann. Reg.* xxxvii. 88). The delinquents most execrated were Tainville, the public accuser of the tribunal, and Lebon. The last pleaded his cause for nine successive days before the convention, with as much coolness and resolution as if his conscience had been wholly void of offence. He was executed with fifteen others, on the 9th inst.

22. Mungo Park sailed from Portsmouth, for the purpose of exploring the interior of Africa.

26. The Ottoman Porte acknowledged the French republic.

**JUNE. IRISH SOCIETIES.**—The new policy of ministers towards Ireland gave rise to societies, both for and against the government, of a mischievous character. From this month, the "Society of United Irishmen" began rapidly to disseminate its principles, and enrol amongst its members a great majority of the catholic, and a large proportion of the protestant population. Oaths of secrecy were administered, and a central and graduated system of organization introduced, coupled with the opening of negotiations with the agents of the French government. On the other hand, Orange clubs were instituted; those clubs drove the people to desperation, by a relentless course of vindictiveness, and became the dictators of the government.

7. Luxembourg surrendered to the French, with a garrison of 10,000 men under general Bender; the acquisition of Mentz alone remained to complete the extension of the boundary of France to the Rhine.

**EXPEDITION TO QUIBERON.**—The pacification concluded with the Vendean and Chouan insurgents in February, which produced tranquillity in the disturbed districts, was but of short duration. These people were under the influence of leaders, who

maintained a correspondence with the emigrant princes, and were liberally supplied with English gold and paper. In May the Chouans again rose in arms, and early in June 3000 emigrants from England effected a landing in Quiberon Bay, to co-operate with them. After some skirmishes, in which most of the French who had been taken out of English prisons deserted, general Hoche made a nocturnal attack upon the adverse camp, and killed or captured a great part of the emigrant troops. The victors obtained the clothing and equipments of 40,000 men, which had been landed for the use of the numerous bands who were expected to join the Bourbon standard.

9. Died in the Temple in his twelfth year, the only son of Louis XVI. The convention soon after agreed to exchange the sister of this unfortunate prince for the commissioners betrayed by Dumourier to the Austrians, and two French ambassadors to the Ottoman court, who had been seized on neutral ground.

22. The dearness of provisions caused a riot at Birmingham, in which one man was killed by the soldiers.

In consequence of the severity of the cold, so unusual at this season of the year, many thousand sheep newly shorn were killed in different parts of the country; it was computed that in Wiltshire full one-fourth of the flocks was destroyed.

Admiral lord Bridport, with 14 sail of the line and eight frigates, gained a victory off Port L'Orient over the French fleet of 12 ships of the line and 11 frigates, when three ships of the line were captured.

26. Earl Fitzwilliam and Mr. Beresford met near Tyburn, to settle a dispute about places and pensions: just as they had taken their ground at twelve paces' distance, a magistrate interfered, which prevented further proceedings.

A numerous meeting in St. George's Fields, to petition for annual parliaments and universal suffrage: the volunteers of the metropolis were kept in readiness on Kennington common to repress any disposition to riot.

July 7. Flour having risen to 70s. a sack, and the quartern loaf to 1s., the lords of the privy council entered into an engagement, to use in their families only bread of an ordinary quality, to diminish the consumption of flour in their respective establishments, and strongly recommended others to follow their example. The court of common council subscribed 1000*l.* for relieving the poor of the metropolis, and entered into resolutions to carry into effect the recommendation of the privy council.

12. The mob of Westminster attacked the crimping houses; and under an im-

pression that Mr. Pitt countenanced the existing abuses in recruiting, they broke the windows of his house in Downing-street. This had long been a subject of complaint, and a source of tumults in the metropolis. It was remedied by the duke of York, who in the course of the year succeeded lord Amherst as commander-in-chief.

22. Spain made peace with France.

24. Henry Redhead Yorke tried and convicted at the York assizes on a charge of sedition. He was subsequently sentenced to pay a fine of 100*l.* and be imprisoned two years in Dorset gaol.

Aug. 22. The French convention decreed that the electors should, in appointing the deputies to the legislative body, choose two-thirds from amongst the members of the present convention; and by another decree it was enacted, that, in default of such election, the convention should fill up the vacancies themselves. These decrees formed a curious contrast to the self-denying ordinance of the Constituent Assembly, which prohibited the re-election of any of its members. The convention was doubtless impressed with the ill effects of the disinterestedness of their predecessors, and deviated into the opposite and less pardonable extreme.

23. NEW FRENCH CONSTITUTION.—The convention adopted the new constitution prepared by their committee, and referred it to the primary assemblies for their acceptance. Its essential parts were, the establishment of a legislative body, consisting of two elective chambers, one of seniors, 250 in number, the other of juniors, 500 in number; one-third of each chamber to be renewed annually. The executive power to be vested in five persons called "The Directors," nominated by the legislative body. One of the directors was to go out yearly and be replaced by the election of another. Public education was provided for; equality of privileges among all citizens declared; religious freedom established, and liberty of speaking and writing fully confirmed.

31. The dearth approaching to famine, that had prevailed during the summer, was remedied by an abundant harvest; in the northern counties the markets were plentifully supplied with the best wheaten flour at 2*s.* 6*d.* per stone of 14 lb.

Sept. 1. Mr. O'Connor and Mr. Griffin found guilty of high treason at Naas in Ireland, and sentenced to be hanged. After sentence, O'Connor made a long speech censuring the abuses of the government.

8. A monument by Flaxman, set up by public subscription at Chichester, to the memory of Collins the poet.

13. Captain Vancouver returned from



his voyage of discovery on the north-west coast of America, after an absence of four years.

17. At the Old Bailey the judges declared that gleaning corn is not a custom of strict right, but to be permitted or not at the will of the owner of the ground.

23. The Dutch colony of the Cape of Good Hope taken possession of by the English under general Craig and admiral Elphinstone.

30. French convention decreed the incorporation of the Austrian Netherlands with the republic.

*Oct. 4. INSURRECTION OF THE PARISIANS.*—The forty-eight sections of Paris, which had usually given the tone to the nation at large, while they unanimously accepted the new constitution, as firmly rejected the law for the re-election of two-thirds of the subsisting convention. The motives of their resistance, as well as the parties who organized it, were different from those which predominated in former risings of the capital. Under Marat, Danton, and Robespierre, the chief actors were the working classes, and their object equality; in the present, the actors were the middle classes, and their object equality too, but an equality compatible with security. Horrified by the atrocities of the reign of terror, the Parisians were apprehensive of its recurrence, by the retention in the new legislature of two-thirds of the convention, most of whom were looked upon as men of blood, implicated in the late sanguinary proceedings of the Jacobins in the metropolis, at Lyons, and in La Vendée. Hence the terrorists sided with the convention against the Parisians, not only as a means of securing an indemnity for past misdeeds, but preserving their supremacy in the government. On the other hand, the royalists aided the sectionists, thinking that the triumph of the moderates might pave the way for the restoration of the monarchy. Neither however the Jacobins nor royalists reaped the full fruits of their calculations. Meanwhile energetic preparations were made for the onset, the convention having secured the aid of detachments of the army. On the night of the 4th, the different sections beat to arms, and at noon on the next day, they were ranged in fighting order, having taken possession of several posts. A bloody conflict now took place between the citizens and regular troops near the hall of the convention, which after the loss of 1000 lives ended in the rout of the Parisians; their opponents had the advantage of artillery, which they used with destructive effect. Barras had the chief command of the conventionalists, subordinate to whom was Napoleon Buonaparte, who on this occa-

sion confirmed the previous impression of his extraordinary military talents. Tranquillity followed, and the constitution and decrees were acquiesced in.

26. A general meeting of the London Corresponding Society was held in Copenhagen fields; the number of persons assembled as members and spectators was very great. Three rostra were erected from which Binns, Thelwall, Hodgson, and John Gale Jones made speeches; and an address, remonstrance, and resolutions were agreed to.

27. NATIONAL CONVENTION dissolved on the day fixed by law; it had sat upwards of three years, namely from October 20th, 1792. It terminated its sittings nobly; for the last decrees which it passed were for the abolition of the punishment of death at the return of peace, and for granting a general amnesty. Previously to the dissolution, attempts were made by Tallien, Legendre, Freron, and other Jacobin chiefs, to restore the ascendancy of their faction, but they were defeated by the energetic efforts of Thibaudeau, Lanjuinais, Boissy d'Anglas, Lepaux, Lesage, and Larivière.

28. New French legislature met, and made choice of five directors, namely, Reveillière Lepaux, Reubel, Latourneur Delamanche, Barras, and Sieyes. Sieyes soon after resigned, and Carnot was chosen in his stead. Of these directors, all except Reveillière Lepaux, were or had been of the predominant party of the Mountain or Jacobin.

29. The king, on going to open parliament, was surrounded by an immense throng of persons of all ranks, who clamorously cried out, "Bread! Peace! No Pitt!" His majesty was much agitated, and the first words he uttered when he entered the house of peers were these, to the lord chancellor: "My lord, I have been shot at." In his progress, one of the glasses of his coach was perforated by a bullet; and on his return he was treated with much rudeness.

30. A proclamation offering a reward of 1000*l.* for the discovery of the authors of the outrage on the king.

Hostilities suspended for three months between the French and Austrian armies.

*Nov. 4.* A proclamation to prevent seditious meetings, and to apprehend persons delivering inflammatory speeches.

6. Lord Grenville introduced a bill into the lords for the "safety of his majesty's person," and on the same day, Mr. Pitt, a bill into the commons, for the "prevention of seditious meetings." These two bills had for their object the restriction of the right hitherto possessed by the people of assembling for the purposes of petitioning the king and legislature, and of discussing

political subjects. They were warmly opposed at every stage in both houses, but carried by more than the usual majorities, in consequence of the daring proceedings of the popular societies. Their duration was limited to three years.

**FRENCH DIRECTORY.**—The feeling of insecurity heretofore prevalent in France, began to subside under the Directory. The Pantheon, a revival of the Jacobin club, was shut by general Buonaparte, and a gradual epuration of the most violent of the faction was in progress in the public offices and municipality of Paris. As a means of lessening the influence of popular clamour over the legislature, the galleries in the convention-hall were reduced to a space not containing more than 300 spectators. A National Institute was established for the promotion of the sciences. It consisted of 144 members, among whom were some of the most illustrious names in France and Europe. In addition a central school or college was established in each department; and a primary school in each commune, to teach writing, reading, arithmetic, and the elements of morality.

21. A common hall in the city of London to petition against the sedition bills; the common council had agreed to a petition in their favour. In Westminster a petition against the bills was agreed to.

Dec. 8. Mr. Pitt brought a message from the king to parliament, to the effect that the state of affairs in France was such that his majesty was ready to treat with the existing government for peace.

9. The London Corresponding Society and an immense concourse, met in Marylebone fields. Messrs. Browne, Jones, and Thelwall were the speakers. "The petition and the resolutions," says the *Annual Register*, "are in strong, firm, and respectful language."

At the close of the year, Britain concluded a treaty with the dey of Algiers, by which the Algerines were permitted to carry their prizes to Corsica, and to sell them publicly there.—*Ann. Reg.* xxxvii. 246.

**POOR LAWS.**—The serious abuses of mixing up *wages* with the parish allowance, and of a profuse grant of relief out of the workhouse, became prevalent. They originated in high prices. The price of corn which for three years preceding 1795 had averaged 54s., rose to 74s. a quarter. As wages continued stationary, the distress of the poor was very great, and many able-bodied labourers, who had rarely before applied for parish assistance, became claimants for relief. Instead of meeting this emergency by temporary expedients, and by grants of relief proportioned to the urgency of each individual case, one uni-

form system was adopted. The magistrates of Berks and some of the southern counties issued tables, showing the wages which they thought every labouring man *ought* to receive, according to variations in the price of bread, and the number of his family; and they accompanied these tables with an order, directing the parish officers to make up the difference to the labourer, in the event of the wages paid to him by his employer falling short of the tabular allowance. An act also passed to allow the justices to administer relief out of the workhouses, and to grant it to such poor persons as had property of their own.

**WEST INDIES.**—In the course of the year, the French made strenuous efforts to recover their possessions in the West Indies. Under the direction of Victor Hugues, a general revolt was planned against the British, in all the French islands. In St. Lucia, the insurrection broke out so suddenly, that the English were compelled to quit the island. The attempts made at Guadaloupe, Grenada, and St. Vincent, though attended with temporary success, were finally defeated.

**ANNUAL OBITUARY.**—Alderman John Sawbridge, the late patriotic M.P. for the city of London. At Paris, aged 80, M. Barthelemy, author of the "Travels of Anacharsis in Greece." Aged 55, James Boswell, the intimate friend and biographer of Dr. Johnson. In great indigence, Florio, the once celebrated flute player. Aged 80, William Romaine, rector of St. Ann's, Blackfriars, and an eloquent Calvinistic preacher. Robert Bakewell, an eminent experimental farmer and grazier. In his 72nd year, Andrew Kippis, D.D. and F.R.S., a man of learning and classical taste; editor of the "Biographia Britannica."

A.D. 1796. Jan. Early in the month the count d'Artois and the duke d'Angouleme, arrived at Edinburgh.

3. Fifty soldiers, in a passage from Guernsey to Cowes, suffocated during a storm, by the hatches being closed down upon them.

13. The linen mills of Marshall and Co. near Leeds burnt, and by the falling of one of the walls seven persons killed.

28. A telegraph erected over the Admiralty to communicate with the line to Dover.

Mr. Stone tried before lord Kenyon for a conspiracy to kill the king, and acquitted. On the verdict being pronounced, a man was fined 20*l.* for raising an exulting shout.

Feb. 1. The king, in returning from Drury-lane theatre, was insulted, and a stone thrown into his carriage.

11. A forged French newspaper, *L'Elclair*, circulated for stock-jobbing; it announced a peace between Austria and France.



12. **STATE OF THE POOR.**—Mr. Whitbread on moving in the commons, that a bill to regulate the wages of labourers in husbandry be read a second time, made this statement. He said that “in most parts of the country the labourers had long been struggling with increasing misery till the pressure had become almost too *grievous to be endured*; while the patience of the sufferers, under their accumulated distresses, had been exemplary.” He then recommended the immediate establishment of a *minimum of wages*; a measure as unjust against the employer, as a maximum would be against the employed. Mr. Pitt, in reply, admitted that the condition of the poor was *cruel*, and such as could not be wished on any principle of humanity or policy. But he argued against the proposition of Mr. Whitbread as contrary to sound principles, and concluded in these words: “What measures then could be found to supply the defect? Let us,” said he, “make relief (by the parish), in cases where there are a number of children, a matter of right and an honour, instead of a ground for opprobrium and contempt. This will make a *large family* a blessing and not a curse; and this will draw a proper line of distinction between those who are able to provide for themselves by their labour, and those who, after having *enriched* their country with a number of children have a claim upon its assistance for their support.”—*Parl. Hist.* xxxii. 710. Mr. Fox did not enter fully into the question, but appeared to acquiesce in the singular principles laid down; and Mr. Whitbread, in conclusion, complimented Mr. Pitt, and recommended government “to institute a *liberal premium for large families*!”

15. Ceylon captured by the British.

18. Kidd Wake found guilty of a misdemeanor, in hissing the king on his going to parliament, and sentenced to the pillory, and five years’ imprisonment.

**INFLUENCE OF COLD.**—The extreme mildness of last January, compared with the unusual severity of the preceding January of 1795, afforded an opportunity of observing the effects of the seasons on health. The average heat of January 1796 exceeded, by above 20 degrees of Fahrenheit, the average of 1795. By turning to the bills of mortality, we find the effects of these different degrees of temperature on human life. In five weeks, between December 1st, 1794, and February 3rd, 1795, the whole number of burials in London amounted to 2823; and in an equal period of five weeks, between December 30th, 1795, and February 2nd, 1796, to 1471.—*Philosophical Transactions.* So that the excess of mortality in January 1795,

above that of January 1796, was 1352 persons.

**Mar. 1.** War declared against England by the Dutch national convention.

10. Insurrection act passed in Ireland authorizing the lord-lieutenant to declare any district in a state of insurrection, whereby the magistracy obtained an arbitrary power of imprisonment.

24. Colonel Cawthorne of the Westminster militia, cashiered for peculation, and afterwards expelled the house of commons.

31. The oriental MSS. of Mr. Halhead, the disciple of the prophet Brothers, purchased by the British Museum.

**Apr. 2.** **SHAKSPEARE FORGERY.**—A tragedy, *Vortigern*, was performed at Drury-lane theatre as one of Shakspeare’s, but subsequently acknowledged by its author, Mr. Ireland, to be a forgery. The audience, which condemned the play, showed more discrimination than several eminent literary connoisseurs, who after examining the alleged Shakspeare papers, attested with their signatures their conviction of their genuineness. Among the subscribers to this notable forgery (*Ann. Reg.* xxxviii. 12) were the earls of Lauderdale, Somerset, and Kinnaid; Dr. Parr, sir Thomas Burgess, James Boswell, John Tweedale, H. J. Pye, E. Valpy, Thomas Blunt, Matthew Wyatt, and J. Pinkerton.

7. Admiral Cornwallis tried by a court-martial for disobeying the orders of the admiralty, but acquitted.

**GENERAL BUONAPARTE.**—This celebrated person, whose name will hereafter so frequently occur, had, like Hoche, Pichegru, Jourdan, Moreau, and other distinguished French generals, attained rapid promotion in the republican armies. In 1791 he was a captain of artillery; and it was only at the siege of Toulon, in 1793, that his soldierly abilities began to develope themselves. At Paris he commanded, as before noticed, the conventional troops on the insurrection of the sections, October 4th, 1795. Supported by the patronage of the director Barras, and the impression produced by his military talents, he was, at the desire of the officers and soldiers, appointed to the command of the army intended for the invasion of Italy. At this time Buonaparte was in his twenty-sixth year, and had never seen a regular engagement in his life; but such was the opinion of his character, science, and activity, that he inspired general confidence. The Italian army amounted to about 50,000 veterans; opposed to it were 80,000 Austrians and Piedmontese, commanded by general Beaulieu. Hostilities began on the 9th inst., at Voltri, nine miles from Genoa. Before the end of the month, seconded by the skill

and zeal of Massena, Augereau, and Rampon, Buonaparte won the decisive battles of Montenotte, Melleisimo, and Mondovi, which obliged the king of Sardinia to sign a treaty of peace in his own capital.

19. Sir Sidney Smith taken prisoner on the French coast, and sent, under a strong escort, to Paris.

28. Charette, the Vendean chief, executed at Nantz. Stoffet, another chief, suffered two months before; and general Hoche, after great exertions, succeeded in quelling the royalists.

30. PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.—The nuptials of these personages did not, from the first, promise domestic felicity; and the princess, after giving birth to a daughter, became the inhabitant of a separate establishment on Blackheath. The final separation took place in this month, just a year after the marriage, and three months after the birth of the princess Charlotte of Wales. The separation was at the instance of the prince, on the ground of incongeniality. In a letter to her royal highness, through the medium of lord Cholmondeley, dated April 30th, he says, "*Our inclinations are not in our own power; nor should either be answerable to the other, because nature has not made us suitable to each other. Tranquil and comfortable society is, however, in our power; let our intercourse therefore be restricted to that.*"

May 7. Buonaparte passed the Po at Placentia, defeating two divisions of the Austrians, and striking such terror into the duke of Parma, that he requested an armistice. This was granted, on the condition of a large contribution; the delivering up twenty paintings, to be selected by the French; and sending commissioners to Paris, to treat of peace.

10. Buonaparte, at the head of his victorious republicans, carries, in face of a tremendous fire of artillery, the bridge of Lodi, on the Adda. Five days after, the conqueror entered Milan, the capital of Austrian Lombardy.

CONSPIRACY OF BABEUF.—About this time the power of the Jacobins in France received its death-blow. Although a majority of the directory were originally of this party, they inclined to moderate measures, as more agreeable to the altered feeling of the nation. With this view, the more violent of the Mountainists were gradually removed from public offices, the police, municipality, and military force of Paris. This opened the eyes of the terrorists, who determined to arrest the downward march of their faction, or at least revenge its extinction. Rumours of insurrection were for some weeks afloat; when, on the 9th inst., considerable bodies of

cavalry were stationed in the vicinity of the Luxembourg and the Tuileries, and the streets patrolled. Next day the council of 500 was apprised by the directory of a horrible conspiracy on the eve of bursting forth, and that the conspirators had been arrested. Amongst these persons were Drouet, who had intercepted the flight of Louis XVI. at Varennes; Rossignol, ex-general of La Vendée; Babeuf, the chief contriver of the plot, and a man of fanciful or doubtful principles; Laignelot, an ex-conventionalist; Darthe; and Buonarroti, an Italian. The last has recently published an account of "Babeuf's Conspiracy for Equality," the importance of which he has greatly exaggerated. Its proceedings were early known to the directory, who suffered it to mature, and even encouraged it, that its authors might be crushed more effectually. Their designs were exactly of the Robespierre school—both atrocious and foolish. Under the pretext of establishing perfect political and civil equality, they purposed the massacre of all existing authorities,—executive, legislative, and municipal; and the establishing a *community of goods*. Believing them to be honest fanatics, government proceeded towards them with lenity; only Babeuf and Darthe suffered; and these, when sentence was pronounced, made an abortive attempt at self-execution, by stabbing themselves.

11. Lemaître and others tried and acquitted of a conspiracy to kill the king.

15. Peace between Sardinia and France.

17. Louis XVIII. compelled to quit the Venetian territory.

19. Parliament prorogued; and on the 21st dissolved by proclamation.

20. TRIAL OF JOHN REEVES, Esq., chairman of the London Association, came on before lord Kenyon, at Guildhall. The prosecution was instituted at the instance of the house of commons, on account of a pamphlet of Mr. Reeves, from which was read the following nonsense:—"That the government of England was a monarchy; that the monarchy was the ancient stock from which sprung those goodly branches of the legislature, the lords and commons; that these, however, were still only branches, and that they might be lopped off, and the tree be a tree still—shorn indeed of its honours, but not like them, cast into the fire." Reeves was acquitted.

27. Lord Charles Townsend found dead in a post-chaise, in which he had returned from Great Yarmouth, with his brother lord Frederick, who had been chosen representative of that borough. Both had exhibited symptoms of insanity; and, according to the statement of the survivor, a dispute occurred between them on reli-



gion, when lord Charles shot himself with a pistol.

29. At a methodist-meeting in Leeds a beam gave way in a workshop, by which 16 women, a man, and a boy, were instantly killed, and 30 others wounded.

The nobles and clergy of Lombardy, treated with contempt by the French, and incensed at their exactions, stirred up an insurrection, which was promptly suppressed by Buonaparte.

31. Jourdan and Moreau prepared to invade Germany.

June 3. Buonaparte entered Verona; next day he blockaded Mantua. A detachment was sent into the papal territories, and the pope being without the means of defence, was compelled to sue for an armistice, which was granted on condition of surrendering Verona, Ferrara, and Ancona, together with valuable paintings and manuscripts from the Vatican:

11. Sir Ralph Abercromby recaptured the islands of St. Vincent, Grenada, and St. Lucia.

24. Moreau, having passed the Rhine at Strasburg, forced the passes of the Black Forest.

27. Two old houses in Houghton-street, Clare-market, fell, and sixteen persons killed or wounded. Such accidents were of constant occurrence in the metropolis. Most of them have been passed over; but, we should say, that for the fifty years preceding, the falling of houses was as frequent, and as destructive, in London, to human life as fires.

July 9. A verdict for 100*l.* given against Daniel Stuart, proprietor of the *Morning-Post*, for sending a forged French newspaper, *L'Eclair*, containing false intelligence, to the *Telegraph* office, and which the proprietors of the *Telegraph* inserted as true, by which their paper was discredited.

29. Wurmser, who had advanced through the Tyrol, at the head of an army of veterans, from Germany, and superseded Beaulieu in the command of the wreck of his army, compelled the French to raise the siege of Mantua.

Aug. 5. Battle of Castiglione, between the lake of Garda and Mantua. After a series of combats on this and the two succeeding days, Buonaparte compelled Wurmser to fall back into the Tyrol.

9. Eiba surrendered to the British, under commodore Nelson.

17. Admiral Elphinstone captured, in Saldanha Bay, a Dutch squadron, intended to recover back the Cape of Good Hope.

22. Jourdan, who had entered Bavaria on its northern border, and greatly alarmed the diet assembled at Ratisbon, was compelled to fall back in consequence of the

junction of the Austrian forces, under Wartensleben and the archduke Charles.

Sept. 4. A large box brought to the secretary of state's office from Botany Bay, containing a quantity of rope two inches thick, spun by the convicts, and the first specimen of their manufacture.

12. Wurmser, after a series of defeats by Buonaparte, Massena, and Angereau, threw himself into Mantua with the remains of his army. In five days the French had taken 16,000 prisoners.

17. Jourdan crossed the Rhine at Bonn. On the 19th was a severe engagement between part of his army and the Austrians at Altenkirchen, in which affair Marceau, an esteemed French general, was killed. Moreau, who had penetrated into the heart of Germany, finding it impossible to maintain his advanced position after the repulse of Jourdan on his left, began his celebrated retreat from Ingoldstadt on the 10th inst., repassing the Leck, and encamping between Ulm and the lake of Constance.

General WASHINGTON retired from public life, terminating a career which has few equals for genuine patriotism, true wisdom, and solid worth, in an admirable farewell address, in which he forcibly exhorted his countrymen to maintain the unity of their government, to cultivate the arts of peace, abstain from factious combinations, and entangling political alliances with foreign states.

22. *Amphion* frigate blew up at Plymouth. The accident happened at four o'clock, while captain Pellew was at dinner; and he and 15 others were the only survivors out of a crew of 220 men.

Oct. 6. NEW PARLIAMENT opened by the king with a speech, in which he announced his determination of opening a negotiation with France for peace, at the same time adverting to the necessity of increased energy in providing means for resisting the enemy, as an intention was manifested of making a descent on these kingdoms. Addresses being moved of a moderate tone, they passed with little debate and without a division. On taking into consideration the subject of invasion, Mr. Pitt proposed a levy of 15,000 men from the parishes, to be divided between the sea and land service, and a supplementary militia of 60,000 and 20,000 cavalry; not to be immediately called out, but enrolled and trained. These suggestions were not opposed.

8. Spain declared war against Britain.

9. Genoa excludes the English.

10. Naples made peace with France.

13. Moreau, after a retreat of 300 miles in an enemy's country, conducted with great skill and bravery, reached Wald Kirchin, in the Brisgau.

The French formed two new republics in Italy,—the Cisalpine and the Transalpine.

16. Died, in his 71st year, and the 23rd of his reign, Victor Amadeus, king of Sardinia.

20. The university of Oxford distributed 2000 copies of the Bible among the French clergy; the marquis of Buckingham also presented 2000 copies, at his own expense, for the same purpose.

22. Lord Malmesbury, the English ambassador, arrived in Paris to treat of peace.

The successes of the French in Italy, under the command of a native of Corsica, caused an insurrection against the British in that island, which ended in compelling them to retire to Elba. It terminated the short-lived English kingdom of Corsica, with its constitution.

26. Habeas Corpus Act suspended in Ireland, and the government begins to arm the yeomanry.

Nov. 2. The French prohibited the import of English manufactures.

5. An invasion from the French being apprehended, a circular was issued by the duke of Portland, secretary of state, to the lieutenants of counties, recommending an account to be taken of the live and dead stock in parishes within twelve miles of the sea.

15, 16. BATTLE OF ARCOLA, in which Buonaparte defeated a fresh army of Austrians, under marshal Alvinzi, sent to raise the siege of Mantua. Arcola is a village fifteen miles from Verona, seated in a marsh, and accessible only by a causeway. On this spot the battle lasted two days, and was more obstinately bloody than any that had been fought. It decided the fate of Mantua, Alvinzi leaving it to surrender or not, and retreating across the Brenta.

17. DEATH OF CATHERINE II.—The empress died suddenly, of apoplexy, in her 68th year, and 34th of her reign, having in 1762 deposed her husband, Peter III., who was murdered by Alexis Orlov; but whether by the direction or connivance of the empress, is uncertain. The prominent traits in the character of Catherine were a love of sway and of glory, especially the glory of aggrandizing the country she governed, and that with a total recklessness as to the means she employed for effecting her purpose. The empress had early patronised the philosophical principles, but was averse to the practice of the French revolution; and was artful enough to excite other powers to begin the war against France, but never actively joined the coalition. Her private conduct was as unscrupulous as her public, being openly immoral and licentious. Paul Petrovitch, the only son of the empress succeeded to the vacant throne.

Dec. 1. The LOYALTY LOAN, of 18 millions, was subscribed in 15 hours, between the 1st and 5th inst. One million was subscribed by the bank of England in their corporate capacity, and 400,000*l.* by the directors individually.

7. In the debate on the BUDGET it was discovered that the minister had already made advances to the emperor to the amount of 1,200,000*l.*, and also to the army under the prince of Condé, without the consent, and during the sitting of parliament. A motion by Mr. Fox, on this violation of parliamentary usage, gave rise to a strenuous debate, which called into action the strength of parties. On a division an amendment, in favour of Mr. Pitt, was carried by 185 against 104.

18. A French fleet, with 25,000 men, under general Hoche, sailed, destined for Ireland, but a storm dispersed their ships, so that on the 24th inst. no more than seven sail of the line and ten others, anchored in Bantry Bay. The admiral, Bouvet, refused to land the troops, and sailed back to Brest. The dispersion of this armament quieted the alarm of an invasion of England, which had been strongly apprehended in the latter part of the year.

19. The directory of France refused the basis proposed by lord Malmesbury, of a mutual restitution of conquests; by France in Europe, of the Netherlands and Italy; and by England, of her colonial acquisitions in the East and West Indies.

21. The notorious major Semple, to avoid transportation for his crimes, stabbed himself in Newgate.

25. The emperor Paul set at liberty general Kosciusko and other Polish prisoners.

29. Lord Malmesbury arrived in London, having been ordered to quit Paris in 48 hours.

31. Several persons frozen to death in different parts of the country; the frost was so severe that the thermometer was 34 and 35 degrees below the freezing point.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—John Anderson, F.R.S., 70, professor of natural philosophy in the university of Glasgow. James Macpherson, 59, author of the poems attributed to Ossian. Peter Paulus, the chief promoter of the revolution in Holland. At Paris, 84, abbé Raynal, the French historian of the West Indies. Samuel Whitbread, 76, the eminent brewer, and supposed to be worth a million at least. Thomas Reid, D.D., 87, professor of moral philosophy in the university of Glasgow, and author of an "Inquiry into the Human Mind." James Fordyce, D.D., 76, author of "Sermons to Young Women." Sir Hugh Palliser, admiral of the white. Emanuel Elam, a quaker merchant of Leeds, who had retired with a fortune of



200,000*l*. At Woolwich, general Broome of the artillery: he had risen from the rank of a private by personal merit. Gerard Hamilton, 69, late Irish secretary, and usually denominated "Single-speech Hamilton." At Botany Bay (March 16), of a deep decline, Mr. Joseph Gerrald, one of the Scottish reformers; and three days after, one of his companions in exile, William Skirving.

A.D. 1797. PROSPECTS OF THE YEAR.—In the course of autumn, England was left to contend singly against the power of France. It was the most disastrous period of the war. Credit became affected, and the bank of England stopped payment. Soon after a mutiny broke out at Spithead; this was settled by giving the seamen additional pay. But another mutiny in the fleet at the Nore was not quelled without bloodshed, and the execution of some of the ringleaders. To add to the embarrassments of the country, Ireland was on the verge of rebellion. The dissensions in that kingdom, inflamed by a variety of aggravations, had proceeded so far, that the malcontents, who assumed the name of UNITED IRISHMEN, regularly organized themselves throughout the country, and sent deputies to treat with the French, for assistance in throwing off the English yoke. On the other side, the party attached to government put in practice strong measures. The military were dispersed into all parts, searches were made for arms with circumstances of great severity, and many persons were apprehended on suspicion. The moderate party in the Irish parliament, who proposed conciliation by a reform in the representation, finding themselves in a small minority, made a secession. The example was followed by the whigs in England.

Jan. 3. Three of the stones of the antique pile of Stonehenge fell, owing, as supposed, to the thaw. The smallest of the three weighed 20 tons.

Paul of Russia enjoined foreigners to wear cocked-hats and their hair in bags, and not to drive through Petersburg with more than two horses.

7. Riot at Carlisle, occasioned by the enrolment of the supplementary militia.

12. General Alvinzi, with a fresh army of 50,000 men, made another effort to raise the siege of Mantua. Passing the Brenta, he fell upon Joubert, who retreated to Rivoli. Buonaparte unexpectedly arriving at Rivoli, in the night of the 14th, a terrible conflict ensued, in which the Austrians were completely defeated, and the entire of their left wing either killed or made prisoners. General Provera, separating from the main body of the Austrians, tried to throw himself into Mantua, but

was repulsed in the suburb of La Favorite, and, with his column of 7000 men, laid down their arms to general Victor.

25. At the quarter-sessions held at Bourn in Lincolnshire, a blacksmith was sentenced to twelve months' solitary imprisonment, without seeing or speaking to any one, except the person who took his victuals, for saying "the king is a rascal, and all who belong to him," &c.

Feb. 1. Colonel Frederick, son of Theodore, ex-king of Corsica, shot himself in the west porch of Westminster-abbey.

2. Mantua capitulated to the French, Buonaparte granting very honourable terms to its brave defender, the venerable Wurmser. The imperialists were now expelled from Italy; and the pope having imprudently resumed hostilities, his territories were speedily overrun by the republicans, who levied upon him a contribution of 30 millions of livres in specie, beside works of art.

8. Mr. Adams elected president of the United States; and Mr. Jefferson, vice-president.

10. The French, under Marmont, entered Loretto, taking possession of the rich offerings of gold and silver; also the *Santa Casa*, or "Holy House," alleged to be the same in which the Virgin Mary was brought from Nazareth by angels, in 1291. The "Madonna," or "Lady of Loretto," was forwarded to Paris. It is a wooden figure, clumsily carved, and was restored to the pope at the time of the *Concordat*, who replaced it in the *Casa Santa*.

The six original pictures of Hogarth's "Marriage à la Mode" sold to Mr. Angerstein for 1000 guineas.

14. NAVAL VICTORY.—Sir John Jervis, with fifteen sail of the line, defeated the Spaniards, off Cape St. Vincent, with twenty-seven sail of the line. Amongst them were six of 112 guns, and one of 136. Four first-rate Spanish men-of-war were captured, and the remainder blockaded in Cadiz. The Spaniards had 600 killed and wounded; the British, 300. For this brilliant exploit sir John was raised to the peerage, and commodore Nelson, who greatly distinguished himself in the action, was knighted.

18. Trinidad surrendered to sir R. Abercromby.

19. Died, in his 74th year, JAMES DODSLEY, bookseller; brother, partner, and successor of the ingenious Robert Dodsley. Their father kept the free-school at Mansfield, and married a young woman of 17 at the age of 75, by whom he had a child at the age of 78.—*Ann. Reg.*, xxxix., 12. Mr. J. Dodsley sold 18,000 copies of Burke's "Reflections on the French Revolution," to whom he made a handsome compliment for

the profits. Mr. Dodsley died worth 70,000*l.*, which chiefly went to his nephews and nieces, and his executors, one of whom was Mr. John Walter, who had been his brother's apprentice.

20. There being a great run on the banks in the north of England for specie, most of them stopped payment.

22. DESCENT IN WALES.—About 1400 Frenchmen landed in Pembrokeshire: they had no artillery; and from their ragged and mean appearance, seemed to have long been the inmates of jails. Lord Cawdor having assembled the country people, armed with scythes and pitchforks, the invaders surrendered to them without offering any resistance. This notable attempt at invasion, and its defeat, were communicated, in due form, by the duke of Portland to the lord-mayor.

26. RESTRICTION ON BANK PAYMENTS.—The suspension of specie payments by this great monetary corporation originated in political causes, not in an over-issue of paper, or other mismanagement of the direction. In the beginning of the year the public funds experienced a depression below anything of the kind felt at the worst period of the American war. This was occasioned by the failure of lord Malmesbury's pacific mission to Paris, and the adverse aspect of the war, in consequence of the victories of the French in Italy. To support the emperor, enormous loans were sent to the continent, the transmission of which had caused the exchanges to become unfavourable in 1795; and in that year and the following, large sums in specie were drawn from the bank. The directors were sensible of their approaching difficulties, owing to the government remittances; and as early as the 11th of February, 1796, resolved—"That it is the opinion of this court, founded upon the experience of the late imperial loan, that if any further loan or advance of money to the emperor, or to any of the foreign states, should in the present state of affairs take place, it will, in all probability, prove *fatal* to the bank of England. The court of directors do, therefore, most earnestly deprecate the adoption of any such measure, and they solemnly protest against any responsibility for the *calamitous consequences that may follow thereupon*." But notwithstanding this, and many other similar remonstrances, fresh advances of money were made to our allies, and fresh demands upon the bank; the directors reluctantly abandoning their own better judgment to what they truly termed the "pressing solicitations" of the chancellor of the exchequer, and their desire to avert "the probable distress which a refusal might occasion, in the then situation of public affairs." But

though the foreign policy of ministers aggravated the difficulties of the bank, the more direct cause of them was the alarm of invasion. The formidable attempt of the French on Ireland last year, and their actual descent in Wales this, combined with rumours of their landing on various parts of the coast, caused general apprehension, and a run was made on the provincial banks. Some of them failed; and the panic becoming general, extended itself to London. Demands for cash poured into the bank from all quarters; and on Saturday, the 25th instant, she had only 1,272,000*l.* of cash and bullion in her coffers (*McCulloch's Historical Sketch of the Bank*, p. 22), with every prospect of a violent run taking place on the following Monday. In this emergency an order in council was issued on Sunday the 26th, prohibiting the directors from paying their notes in cash until the sense of parliament had been taken on the subject. Next day the occurrence was communicated to parliament in a royal message, and on the 28th, after violent debates, a secret committee was nominated by ballot to investigate the affairs of the company. On the report of the committee appearing (March 2nd), whatever doubts might have been entertained with respect to the solvency of the bank, were removed by showing that at the moment the order in council was issued, the bank was possessed of property to the amount of 15,513,690*l.* after all claims upon her had been deducted. Previously to this inquiry there does not appear to have been any misgivings among the commercial classes; for on the very first day of the restriction, a meeting of the principal bankers, merchants, and traders was held at the Mansion-house, when a resolution was agreed to, and very numerous signed, pledging, as had been done in 1745, those present to accept, and to use every means in their power to cause bank-notes to be accepted as cash in all transactions. Ultimately a bill was brought into parliament, continuing the restriction on cash payments till six months after the signature of a definitive treaty of peace. The embarrassments of the bank having been chiefly caused by the policy of government, it had some claims on its protection, and its intervention in the existing emergency appears to have been an unavoidable expedient. So long as the alarm of invasion continued, it was clear that no bank paper, immediately convertible into gold, would remain in circulation. But after her coffers had been drained by imperial loans, she was wholly unable to meet such a run. On the day of the restriction, it has been seen, her supply of cash and bullion was reduced to 1,272,000*l.*, while



her notes in circulation, of 5*l*. and upwards (the only denominations then issued), amounted to 10,266,561*l*. So that without ministerial protection a stoppage of payment was inevitable; and this, in the then critical state of the country, would have been productive of indescribable calamities.

*Mar.* 4. Twenty-shilling notes issued for the first time by the bank of England.

On Thursday, sir Godfrey Webster obtained a sentence of divorce and separation against his wife, formerly Miss Vassal, for adultery with lord Holland; in Italy and elsewhere. Sir Godfrey obtained 6000*l*. damages against his lordship, who immediately after the divorce married lady Webster, her ladyship having first had a child, which she acknowledged to be lord Holland's.

8. A public fast-day.

10. Spanish dollars issued by the bank, at 4*s*. 9*d*. each.

11. Ladies Buckinghamshire, Luttrell, and Stuart convicted, in penalties of 50*l*. each, for playing at faro. Two discharged servants informed of them.

16. Buonaparte passed the Tagliamento in pursuit of the retreating Austrians, now commanded by the archduke Charles. Arriving at the Lisonzo, he encountered opposition; but having effected a passage, took Gradisca; next made himself master of Gorizia; and finally, of Trieste, the emperor's only port on the Adriatic. Massena, Joubert, and Bernadotte were simultaneously advancing on other points, through Carinthia, the Tyrol, and Carniola. The greatest alarm prevailed at Vienna, which was the avowed focus of the French armies. All the French columns having joined at Clagenfurth, on the 31st, Buonaparte wrote a letter to the archduke Charles, making overtures of peace. The archduke, in reply, stated that the emperor had not furnished him with powers to treat for peace.

23. A common-hall in the city of London, to address the king to dismiss his ministers. A meeting had previously been held in Palace-yard, Westminster, for a similar purpose.

24. The king refused to receive the address of the city of London on the throne, except in its corporate capacity, but he would receive it at the levee, in the usual way of receiving addresses.

A riot at Derby, occasioned by Mr. Thelwall delivering a political lecture in the Baptist-chapel. A mob collected, with drums and horns, to drown his voice. The lecturer, with pistol in hand, threatened to shoot whoever molested him; and in consequence was suffered to depart without injury.—*Ann. Reg.*, xxxix. 15.

*Apr.* 3. According to a return to the house of commons, the number of aliens in the metropolis is 7041.

7. The Austrian general Bellegarde requested an armistice for ten days, which Buonaparte granted. He was within 120 miles of Vienna, and had written to the directory that "he hoped in a few days, at the head of 20,000 grenadiers, to plant the republican standard in the capital of his imperial majesty."

9. John Gale Jones, the itinerant delegate of the London Corresponding Society, found guilty at Warwick, under the late act against seditious assemblies. It was the first conviction under the statute.

10. Miss Farren, in the "School for Scandal," took leave of the stage previous to her marriage with the earl of Derby.

18. PEACE WITH AUSTRIA.—Preliminaries of peace between France and Austria were signed at Leoben, in Styria. By this treaty Austria ceded the Netherlands to France, allowed a free navigation of the Rhine, and recognised the independence of the newly erected Italian republics. On the same day, general Hoche, commanding the army of the Sambre and Meuse, passed the Rhine at Nieuwied, and defeated the Austrians under general Kray. Next day Moreau recaptured Kehl, and defeated the Austrians, in a bloody engagement, near Strasburg. Intelligence of the peace of Leoben did not arrive till the 21st, when hostilities on the Rhine ceased.

MUTINIES IN THE NAVY.—In this and the two following months some alarming discontents manifested themselves in the navy, occasioned by the severity of the discipline, insufficiency of the provisions, unequal distribution of prize-money, smallness of pay, and the allowance of Greenwich pensioners.—(*Annual Register*, xxxix., 207.) These discontents first broke out into open mutiny in the fleet at Spithead, on the 15th, when, on the signal being given to prepare for sea, the men ran up the shrouds, and gave three cheers. Two delegates from each ship were appointed, and an oath administered, binding each seaman to fidelity to the cause. At length lord Bridport went on board, and told them that he was the bearer of redress for all their grievances, and the king's pardon. This produced subordination, which continued for some time, when a fresh mutiny occurred, under an apprehension amongst the sailors that the promises made to them would not be observed. This suspicion being, however, removed by an explanation from lord Hood, they were again reduced to submission. On the 8th of May a bill passed through both houses of parliament in one day, for augmenting the pay of the seamen and marines. This

guarantee and concession, it was hoped, would have satisfied all reasonable demands of the discontented; but unfortunately they were obtained by force, and the same means, it was supposed, remained open for other acquisitions. A fresh mutiny, in consequence, broke out at the Nore on the 22nd, when delegates were elected to draw up and present a list of their grievances to the board of admiralty. In this instance government determined to employ force to reduce the mutineers to obedience, in which determination they were strengthened by the discountenance shown by the Portsmouth and Plymouth fleets to these proceedings. Preparations for hostilities were commenced on both sides, when the disaffected began to disagree amongst themselves, and after some bloodshed, all the ships submitted, giving up Richard Parker, the ringleader, and his fellow-delegates.

**May 3. INVASION OF VENICE.**—Buonaparte issued a manifesto against the Venetians, complaining of the enmity shown to the French during the war with the imperialists. Immediately after their territory was overrun by French troops, who on the 16th entered Venice, subverted the government, and established another on a more democratic basis. About the same time Genoa was revolutionized on a similar principle, Buonaparte informing the aristocracy that it was in vain to oppose the spirit of the age.

**MORTALITY OF FOUNDLINGS.**—At a meeting of a committee of the Foundling-hospital, London, on the 3rd instant, Mr. Bernard stated, in answer to sir John Blaquiere, that there had been admitted into the institution, since the year 1770, 1684 children, of whom 482 had died under the age of twelve months; being rather more than one in four. But the management had recently been improved: in the last ten years the average mortality had been reduced to one in six; and in the last four years, to one in seven.

14. The Irish house of lords made an alarming report of the preparations for a general insurrection.

15. Mr. W. Ponsonby moved, in the Irish house of commons, for a reform in that house, which was negatived by 117 to 30. Upon which Mr. Grattan and the leaders of opposition seceded from parliament.

30. Kosciusko, the Polish hero, arrived in London, on his way to America.

**June 1.** England being left alone in the contest with France, intimated to the directory a desire to renew the negotiation for peace.

**IRISH ABSENTEES.**—The following are the yearly rentals of the Irish estates (*Ann. Reg.* for 1797, p. 31) belonging to

noblemen who generally reside in England:—Marquis Donegal, 48,000*l.*; marquis Downshire, 24,000*l.*; marquis Hertford, 15,000*l.*; marquis Lansdowne, 13,500*l.*; duke of Devonshire, 11,000*l.*; earl Fitzwilliam, 9000*l.*; earl of Barrymore, 7500*l.*; viscount Montmorres, 5000*l.*; viscount Downe, 7000*l.*

21. Died **PETER THELLUSSON**, a rich city merchant, remarkable for the eccentric will he made, and which gave rise to an act of parliament limiting executory devises (*Cabinet Lawyer*, 10th ed., p. 535). After bequeathing some inconsiderable legacies to his three sons, the rest of his property, consisting of lands of the annual value of 4500*l.*, and 600,000*l.* personal property, was vested in trustees, to accumulate, subject to contingent appropriations, for the payment of the national debt.

24. At a meeting of the Livery of London for the election of sheriffs, the earl of Lauderdale, citizen and needle-maker, was brought forward by the popular party as one of the candidates. The show of hands was against his lordship. It was an unusually numerous and respectable meeting, and considered a trial of political strength.

A royal warrant granted to Bolton, of Soho, Birmingham, to coin penny and twopenny-pieces.

30. Richard Parker, the mutineer, executed on board the *Sandwich*, at Sheerness. He behaved with firmness and propriety, expressing a wish that his death might be deemed a sufficient atonement, and the lives of others be saved. Parker was a native of Scotland, where he had been a shopkeeper, but getting into debt, had, two years before, volunteered into the navy.

**July.** Lord Malmesbury arrived at Lisle as minister-plenipotentiary, to treat with the French Republic for peace; the hon. Henry Wellesley his secretary.

8. **DEATH OF EDMUND BURKE.**—This eminent orator, writer, and politician was the younger son of an attorney, and educated at Dublin-college, in which city he was born, January 1, 1730. Not succeeding in an application for the professorship of logic at Glasgow, he settled in London, where he sought subsistence and distinction in the occupations of literature. His first acknowledged production was an ironical "*Vindication of Natural Society*," published in 1758. In the same year appeared the first volume of the "*Annual Register*," of which he was the projector and compiler, receiving for his services 100*l.*,—the receipts being still extant (*Prior's Life of Burke*, p. 61). His connexion with this work was long continued, but in the latter volumes Mr. Burke confined himself to the historical part, and afterwards only to a supervision of that. In



1761 he accompanied Gerald Hamilton, the secretary to the lord-lieutenant, to Ireland, and by his influence obtained a pension of 300*l.* a year on the Irish establishment. This appears to have been Mr. Burke's first introduction into public life. On his return, in 1765, he became private secretary to the marquis of Rockingham, then first lord of the treasury, and through the same interest, M.P. for Wendover. He was now a regular party-man, devoting his pen and his tongue to the support of his patron, from whom he received a nominal loan, but real gift, of 10,000*l.* This enabled him to purchase his Beaconsfield villa, and for which he showed his gratitude, by composing the well-known tribute, inscribed on the mausoleum of his noble benefactor in Wentworth-park. In 1770 appeared his "Thoughts on the Present Discontents;" a pamphlet abounding in constitutional sentiments, but more valuable as a specimen of the petty objects to which public writers were then devoted, being chiefly directed against the influence of an "inner cabinet"—that never existed—hostile not to the people, but to aristocratical domination; and for which the suggested remedy was the placing political power in the hands of himself and friends. In the disputes with the American colonies, Mr. Burke recommended a medium course, that concession should be blended with coercion. He also expressed himself favourably towards the liberty of the press, the rights of juries, and religious toleration. His bill for the economical reform of the royal household raised him high in popular estimation, and drew from his intellectual stores a rich display of antiquarianism, wit, humour, and financial detail. But his parliamentary consequence declined after the ruin of his party by the coalition with lord North, which he projected, and his oligarchical scheme of Indian administration; errors which were not redeemed by the want of judgment, temper, and equity he evinced in the impeachment of Warren Hastings. After the establishment of Mr. Pitt's ministry, in 1783, the "luxuriant expatiations" of the orator were listened to with impatience in the house of commons. They were considered interruptions to public business, and were met, says *The Annual Register*, vol. xl., p. 336, with "coughing, beating the ground, and hooting." Naturally irritable, these annoyances often drove him into the most outrageous fits of passion. He did not recover his ascendancy till the French Revolution, when he again burst forth with greater force and effulgence than ever, both as writer and speaker. There does not appear to have been a direct apostacy in the part Mr. Burke took in this great crisis.

He had advocated constitutional liberty and the removal of proved abuses, but he was never the partisan of organic changes in church or state. Parliamentary reform he had uniformly opposed, and the scruples of Dissent he reluctantly indulged. George III. was a great admirer of his celebrated "Reflections," and recommended to all the courtiers who came near him to read them. In 1795 he received a pension of 1200*l.* on the civil-list, and 2500*l.* on the 4½ per cent. fund; and to which it is said a peerage would have been annexed, had not the boon become valueless by the death of his son. These visitations of good and evil he seems not to have long survived. Mr. Burke's mind was of Irish texture; more apt to become enamoured of outward seemings than realities; more imaginative than logical; more impulsive than considerate; more descriptive than discriminating. He had seen Marie Antoinette a vision of grace and beauty, therefore France was well governed, and the people happy. He rose to affluence in England in the alternate championship of the rival factions; found her the emporium of wealth, of letters, and public charities, therefore her political administration had been wise and beneficent. It was a remarkable instance of the juncture of extremes that two nations should be contemporaneously led away by two minds not unlike in extravagance, force, originality, and eloquence, but wholly opposite in their conclusions. Rousseau was the apostle of abstraction; Burke, of prescription. One sought the type of social excellence in the simplicity of villages, in fields, and woods; the other, in the refinement of cities, in halls, cathedrals, and palaces. Their convictions, as men of strong passions are apt to be, were moulded by taste more than reason. Amidst much abasement, they both retained what from Nature they had received,—

"Intense and glowing minds."

July 15. The exiled French clergy permitted to return to France on taking the oaths to the constitution.

20. Parliamentary session closed.

24. Admiral Nelson, acting on fallacious intelligence, made an unsuccessful attack on Santa Cruz, in the island of Teneriffe. The loss of lives in this rash attempt was equal to that sustained in the battle off Cape St. Vincent. Nelson himself had his arm shot off, and several valuable officers were killed or wounded.

28. The London Corresponding Society held a meeting in Pancras, to petition the king; but their proceedings were interrupted by the magistrates, who read the Riot Act, and arrested Alexander Galloway, Binns, Hodgson, and other speakers.

*Aug. 30.* At Leeds, the Methodist conference resolved that any member of their connexion should be ejected who propagated opinions inimical to the established religion and government.

*Sept. 1.* Buonaparte procures the liberation of Lafayette and fellow-sufferers, imprisoned in the castle of Olmutz.

4. **ARRESTS IN PARIS.**—The executive government of France found itself hardly able to make head against the plots of anarchists and royalists, and recommended that on the annual renewal of one-third of the legislature, the electors should take a new oath of fidelity to the constitution. Among the new members who took their seats were some of the ancient noblesse, the Jacobin Barrère, and general Pichegru, who was suspected of a design to restore the Bourbons. In the directory Latourneur went out by lot, and was replaced by Barthelemi, a diplomatist and a man of letters. More favour now began to be shown to the emigrants and nonjuring priests, and the severe decrees against them were relaxed. Buonaparte, however, adhered firmly to the directory; and on the anniversary of July 14th, he addressed his army, informing them that counter-revolutionary projects were in agitation, and urged them to be true to that republican cause in which they had shed so much blood. To this appeal the soldiers responded with alacrity. Animated by the support of the military, a majority of the directory determined at once to crush their political opponents. Early in the morning of the 4th inst. the alarm-guns were fired by order of the directory. Barthelemi, refusing to concur, was put under arrest; Carnot effected his escape. Commissioned by Barras, Reubel, and Lareveilliere, general Augereau surrounded the hall of the legislative councils with a military force, and, entering, found the opposition members in consultation upon the course to be pursued. With his own hand he seized general Pichegru, and ordered eighteen others of the members to be arrested on a charge of treason. These were committed to the Temple, and the hall shut up. A committee of public safety was then nominated, whose resolutions were adopted by the council of 500. New decrees repealed the laws in favour of the royalists and emigrants, placed the public journals under the inspection of the police, and sentenced to deportation fifty-five members of the two councils. It is a signal proof of a change of national feeling in these acts of violence, that *not one drop of blood was shed*. The two vacancies in the directory were filled by Merlin and François de Neufchâteau.

6. Between this day and July 19th sir J. B. Warren captured seven French

ships of war and sixteen merchant vessels.

9. Three men suffocated by the carbonic acid gas in one of Meux's vats, having descended without the previous precaution of letting down a lighted candle.

10. Died in childbed, Mrs. GODWIN, a woman of uncommon talents, and considerable knowledge; well known by her literary works, under her original name of Wollstonecraft, particularly by her "Vindication of the Rights of Women."

18. Negotiations at Lisle abruptly terminated, and lord Malmesbury ordered to leave the place in 24 hours. The French had refused to treat on the basis of reciprocal restitution; and doubtless assumed their present arrogance in consequence of their late conquests, and a secret knowledge of the rebellion organizing in Ireland.

27. The bank withdrew their dollars owing to the number of counterfeits in circulation.

*Oct. 4.* Earl of Mornington appointed governor-general of Bengal.

A mutiny broke out in the fleet at the Cape of Good Hope, which subsided in consequence of a communication made to them that the demands of the seamen at Spithead had been complied with.

11. Admiral Duncan attacked the Dutch fleet off CAMPERDOWN, commanded by admiral De Winter, and, after a severe engagement, captured eight Dutch ships, including those of the admiral and vice-admiral, and four frigates: only three Dutch ships of the line escaped. For this brilliant victory Duncan was raised to the peerage, with an hereditary pension.

13. Sir B. Hammet fined 1000*l.* for refusing to serve the office of lord-mayor.

17. Definitive treaty of peace signed at Campo Formio, between Austria and France, agreeably to the preliminaries settled at Leoben, the emperor being compensated for the loss of Belgium by the cession of Venice. By a secret article, Austria consented that the Rhine should be the boundary between France and Germany.

**THEOPHILANTHROPISTS.**—A new sect appeared at Paris under this name, of which Lareveilliere, one of the directors, declared himself the patron. These religionists, rejecting revelation, confined their worship to one Supreme Being; and gradually increasing in number, they at length took possession, by permission of the municipality, of many of the churches, occupied also at other hours of the day by the catholics. In lieu of the mystic and sumptuous rites of the Roman church, their offerings to the Deity were the simple products of the earth,—a wheaten ear, or a bouquet of flowers!



**Nov. 2. BRITISH PARLIAMENT met.** The principal topics of the royal speech were the failure of the negotiations for peace, the prosperous state of the revenue, naval successes, and the necessity of increased exertions in the prosecution of the war. The address was carried with more than the usual preponderancy of votes. Grey, Whitbread, Sheridan, and Fox, wearied by fruitless opposition, had seceded from parliament. Mr. Wilberforce said he did not participate in the "poignant grief expressed for the absence of Mr. Fox;" uninfluenced by "motives of personal ambition, he felt it more imperative upon him, in the critical state of the country, to stand more firmly at his post."—*Belsh. Geo III.*, vi. 201.

10. Died, of dropsy, in the 54th year of his age, after a reign of eleven years, **FREDERICK WILLIAM II.**, king of Prussia. He was succeeded by his son Frederick William III. Like his predecessor, the late king was influenced by ambition, and was little scrupulous about the means of its indulgence; traits of character manifested by the partition of Poland, the treaty of Pilnitz, and desertion of the coalition after receiving the English subsidy as the price of his continued co-operation.

**Dec. 1.** Mr. Fox presented to the king, at the levee, a petition from 5000 freeholders of the county of Down, complaining of Irish grievances.

2. Gold seven shilling-pieces ordered to be received as the current coin of the realm.

12. Colonel Fitzgerald, who was allied to the earl of Kingston, and shared his hospitality, having seduced, under aggravated circumstances, the daughter of that nobleman, fell, in a scuffle, a victim to his lordship's natural and just resentment.

19. General thanksgiving for our naval victories. The king and parliament went in grand procession to St. Paul's, to deposit the colours taken.

26. **DEATH OF JOHN WILKES, F.R.S.**—This once popular agitator expired in his 73rd year, at the house of his accomplished daughter "Polly," in Grosvenor-square, alderman of Farringdon Without, and chamberlain of London. Mr. Wilkes had long considered himself a "fire burnt out." Whatever may have been his motives, his exertions and intrepidity added legal security to the liberties of Englishmen. According to one of his contemporaries (*Butler's Reminiscences*, 73-4), Wilkes was an "elegant epicurean; in his politics an aristocrat, and would have much rather been a favoured courtier at Versailles than the most commanding orator in St. Stephen's chapel." He possessed, however, something more than the vapour of patriotism: he could resist corruption, attack and

overcome tyranny, despise a gaol, and face poverty, and banishment. His ready wit was proverbial, and he never missed the opportunity of being jocular at the expense of his colleagues. Sometimes he would disconcert the gravity of a city feast by his satire; and when he told alderman Burnell (formerly a bricklayer), who seemed to be unable to manage a knife in the simple operation of cutting a pudding, "that he had better take his trowel to it," he set the whole corporation in a roar.

28. Insurrection at Rome; the French ambassador, general Duphot, killed, in endeavouring to prevent the pope's soldiers from firing on the people.

**USEFUL PREMIUM.**—Count Rumford gave 1000*l.* 3 per cent. annuities, the interest of which is to be disposed of every other year, to the person who shall communicate any discovery on heat and light. The preference to be given to such discovery that tends most to promote the good of mankind; and to be determined by the council of the Royal Society.

**PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.**—The total number of persons paying assessed taxes was 791,802; of which number, 190,122 paid under 6*s.*—*Ann. Reg.* for 1797, p. 159.

The gold and silver coined in the reign of George II. was 11,966,576*l.*; in the present reign, up to 1797, the amount was 44,111,817*l.* About 40 millions of specie were supposed to be at present in circulation.—*Ibid.* 57.

The number of emigrant French clergy supported by government was 5000; of lay-persons, 2950.

The British naval force in commission in January was, of ships of the line, 124; fifty guns, 18; frigates, 180; sloops, 184: total, 506. There were building, 22 ships of the line, 3 fifties, and 9 frigates.

**ANNUAL OBITUARY.**—Miss Addison, 79, the daughter of the author of the "Spectator." Horace Walpole, earl of Orford, 80, author of the "Castle of Otranto," &c. William Mason, author of "Elfrida," "The English Garden," &c. Charles Macklin, comedian, 98, the father of the stage. James Petit Andrews, F.A.S., author of "Continuation of Henry's History of Great Britain." General Hoche, 30, a successful French general, and one of the many officers of the republican armies who owed his promotion to merit and the discernment of Carnot. William Enfield, LL.D., 57, author of several useful elementary works. Jeffrey, lord Amherst, 81, field-marshal in the army. In Virginia, Thomas Palmer, esq., who, among other bequests, left the reversion of 150*l.* to the author of the best essay on the "Cruel and Absurd Practice of War." Robert Burns, 37, "The Ayrshire poet" and emi-

nently popular for the originality, humour, and pathos of his writings.

A.D. 1798. PROSPECTS OF THE YEAR.—The breaking out and suppression of the Irish rebellion, took the lead in domestic events. Strenuous exertions were made by the minister to raise the supplies, now swelled to an enormous amount, within the year, by tripling the assessed taxes, and a tax on income. In France the government continued unsettled, being assailed on opposite sides by the machinations of the Royalists and Jacobins, both inveterately hostile; but the Revolution had ceased to be sanguinary. National enthusiasm had now taken the direction of martial glory, which was sought to be indulged in the aggressive subjugation of Switzerland, and a romantic expedition to the East. It was on the military and the great body of the people the directory mainly relied for support: the former was conciliated by meritorious rewards, by brigandage and conquests; the latter, by constantly exposing to sale the estates of the church and nobility, which enabled the industrious to become proprietors of land, and identified in interest with their rulers. Having no enemy on their hands after the peace of Campo Formio, but Britain, the old threat of invasion was revived. A number of troops was assembled on the opposite coast, and transports collected in the harbours of the Channel. All this by many was thought as it turned out to be, mere gasconade, yet the most active measures were pursued to repel the threatened attack. Besides a large addition made to the militia, every county was directed to raise bodies of irregular cavalry from the yeomanry; and almost every town and considerable village had its corps of volunteers trained and armed. The island never before was in such a formidable state of internal defence. Party differences were suspended as to the essential point of resisting the enemy; a warlike spirit was generally diffused through the nation, which was further excited by splendid naval victories. Commerce was highly prosperous, which with a harvest unusually abundant, entirely dispelled the gloom that hung over the country in the past year.

Jan. 1. Silver tokens, 5s. each, issued by the bank of England.

4. The debate on trebling the assessed taxes, which had continued several days in the house of commons, terminated, and the question carried by 202 against 129. Mr. Fox said, though he wished for a reform of parliament, he had no idea of obtaining it, but by the organ and through the means of parliament.—(*Ann. Reg.*, xl. 202.) A new phrase seems to have been first used in this debate; Mr. Pitt accusing the opposition

of an intention to obstruct the supplies, till "they had obtained a *radical reform* of parliament to an indefinite extent."

7. General Menard entered Switzerland; the French directory, intoxicated by success, determined to revolutionise the cantons on the plan of the French republic.

13. Lord Camelford deliberately shot dead lieutenant Peterson, in the naval yard at Antigua, about a disputed point of rank; and a court-martial deeming the conduct of the officer mutinous, his lordship was *honourably acquitted*.

24. At the Crown and Anchor 2000 persons met to celebrate the birth-day of Mr. Fox. The duke of Norfolk in the chair, supported by the duke of Bedford, earls Lauderdale and Oxford, Sheridan, Tierney, Erskine, captain Morris, and Horne Tooke; the latter became reconciled to Mr. Fox by the explanation Mr. Fox gave of his sentiments on parliamentary reform. The chairman gave as a toast, "Our sovereign's health, the majesty of the people." For this and other sentiments promulgated at the meeting, his grace was dismissed from the lord-lieutenancy of the west riding of Yorkshire, and removed from his regiment of militia.

Feb. 6. The proprietors of the bank of England subscribed 200,000*l.* towards the defence of the country threatened with invasion. It was the commencement of a voluntary subscription for the support of the war, by which a million and a half was raised. On the 9th, a meeting of bankers and merchants was held in the square of the Royal Exchange, when 46,534*l.* was subscribed on the hustings, by 218 subscribers only; Mr. Bosanquet and alderman Curtis were the chief speakers. The king subscribed 20,000*l.* and the queen 5000*l.* Mr. Boyd subscribed 3000*l.*, and the firm of Peel and Yates cotton-manufacturers of Lancashire, 10,000*l.*; the court of common council of London subscribed 10,000*l.*

12. Died at Petersburg of apoplexy, in his 66th year, Stanislaus Augustus Poniatowski, late king of Poland. Having died a deposed monarch, no court mourning took place for his death; though there was one for Louis XVI. of France, who was deposed before he was beheaded.

19. REBELLION IN IRELAND. — Earl Moira moved unsuccessfully in the Irish house of lords an address to the lord lieutenant, beseeching him to adopt conciliatory measures for allaying the discontents in Ireland. His lordship dwelt upon the flogging, picketting, half-hanging, and other acts of torture that had been resorted to, in order to extort confession from persons against whom no legal evidence existed. These cruelties, and the knowledge that



their plans had been discovered by government, determined the malcontents no longer to delay an appeal to arms. A general insurrection was determined upon, in which the castle of Dublin, the camp near it, and the artillery barracks, were to be surprised in one night, and other places were to be seized at the same moment. The disclosure of the plot by one of the conspirators occasioned the seizure of fourteen of the delegates at Dublin; and the information of Armstrong, a militia officer, who had entered among them as a spy, produced other discoveries which entirely defeated this design. Nothing therefore was left but open force, to which they shortly after resorted.

23. The French under Berthier having deprived the pope of his temporal authority, his holiness withdrew to Sienna.

Mar. 1. At Margate were apprehended on suspicion of holding a treasonable correspondence with the enemy, Arthur O'Connor, proprietor of a Dublin newspaper; Binns, an active member of the London Corresponding Society; O'Coigley, a priest; Leary and Allen: they were brought to London and committed to the Tower.

12. The Irish directory arrested at the house of Oliver Bond, on the information of Reynolds a spy.

13. A hair-dresser at Newport, Monmouthshire, ate and drank to such excess, as to occasion his death; on a coroner's inquest being held on the body, the jury brought in a verdict of *felo de se*, and the remains of the glutton were buried in the public road.

25. Lord Somerville chosen president of the Board of Agriculture, in opposition to sir John Sinclair.

The total amount of the St. Jago, Spanish prize, was 555,000*l.*; out of which admiral Gell and the other flag officers shared 52,000*l.* each; the several captains 26,000*l.*; and the subaltern officers in proportion: the law expenses amounted to 28,000*l.*, leaving 148,000*l.* in the agents' hands, to defray any other contingent demands.

30. The celebrated Didot the French printer, with a German named Herman, have announced a new invention in printing, which they term *stereotype*.—*Ann. Reg.* 22.

Apr. 2. LAND TAX REDEMPTION.—Mr. Pitt introduced his plan for supporting public credit, and augmenting the national resources. It consisted of a scheme for making the land-tax, which had hitherto been annual, perpetual, and allowing the owner of the land to redeem his land-tax, at a price regulated by the current price of the three per cents. The ministerial project became law, but it never realised the expectation of its author. At this period

the produce of the tax at 4*s.* was 2,037,627*l.*, and it was calculated, that by the sale of this amount, 66 millions of the public debt might be cancelled. But not one half of the land-tax has yet been redeemed.

4. Messrs. Mellish, Bosanquet, and Pole, merchants of the city, were stopped by three highwaymen, on Hounslow-heath: after robbing them, without resistance, of their money and watches, one of the robbers wantonly fired into the chaise, and mortally wounded Mr. Mellish.

The duke of York appointed commander-in-chief of all the forces.

10. Bernadotte, the French ambassador at Vienna, in obedience to the orders of the directory, caused the tri-coloured flag to be displayed in triumph at his hotel, which so incensed the populace that they tore it down: upon this Bernadotte wrote a haughty note to the emperor demanding satisfaction, which being refused, he abruptly left the city.

20. The executive committee of the London Corresponding Society arrested with their books and papers, in an old building, in Newcastle-street, Strand.

Died, aged 31, of a decline, Mr. Jenkins the tall bank clerk: his outer coffin measured eight feet in length, and he was buried by permission of the directors in the ground inside the Bank, which was formerly the burial ground of St. Christopher's church. Some surgeons had offered upwards of 200 guineas for his corpse.

The bishop of Derry (earl of Bristol) arrested in Italy, on suspicion of being a spy.

May 12. Sir Sidney Smith escaped from France, after an imprisonment of two years.

19. EXPEDITION TO OSTEND.—Intelligence having been received that a number of transports fitting out at Flushing were intended to be sent round by the canals to Ostend and Dunkirk, for the purpose of invading England, an expedition was despatched to destroy the sluices and basin of the Bruges canal at Ostend. The direction of the enterprize was entrusted to general Coote and captain Home Popham. On the 19th the troops were disembarked, and in a few hours the sluices were blown up, and several vessels in the canal destroyed. But on returning to the beach, the wind and surf were so high, that it was impossible to re-embark. Meanwhile the country being alarmed, the enemy advanced upon them with a superior force, and the British, after a spirited resistance, were compelled to capitulate. The number landed was about 1000, of whom more than 100 were killed or wounded; among them general Coote.

20. EXPEDITION TO EGYPT.—A formidable expedition had long been preparing

at Toulon, which had been the subject of various conjectures. It consisted of 13 ships of the line, and 200 transports, carrying 28,000 regular troops; artists, linguists, and men of science of all kinds, to the number of 121, also accompanied the expedition. The command of the whole was given to Buonaparte, who besides acquiring the reputation of being the greatest general of the age, bore that of a man of varied talents and resources. It sailed on the 20th, and on June 9th reached Malta, of which possession was taken; thence it proceeded to its ultimate destination, and reached the coast of Egypt July 1st. The object of the expedition now disclosed itself, which was the conquest of that celebrated country, coveted not only as a valuable acquisition, but as affording a station whence the English power in the East Indies, long mistakenly regarded by the French as the great source of their rival's wealth, might be advantageously assailed. Buonaparte landed his troops, took Alexandria by storm, defeated the rebel beys, and made himself master of Cairo.

At a meeting of the whig club, Mr. Fox gave as a toast "the sovereignty of the people:" on the 25th, the king struck out his name from the list of privy councillors.

21. A. O'Connor, Binns, Allen, Leary, and O'Coigley, tried at Maidstone for high treason; the last only was found guilty; but O'Connor and Binns were detained on another treasonable charge. Mr. O'Coigley was executed on Pennenden heath, meeting death with great fortitude, and denying to the last the charge of treasonable correspondence abroad.

**ARRESTS IN DUBLIN.**—On the 21st, the two Sheares, both barristers of fortune, and some others, were arrested, and the city and county of Dublin declared to be in a state of insurrection. On Saturday evening, major Sirr, capt. Ryan, and Mr. justice Swan, proceeded to a house in Thomas-street, to arrest lord Edward Fitzgerald. On being introduced to his lordship in bed, he fired a pistol at Mr. Swan, which did not take effect; he then seized a dagger and ran Mr. Swan through the body. Capt. Ryan then entered the room, when his lordship ran at him and cut open his body, from whence his bowels protruded. Major Sirr, who had been waiting outside with a sergeant's guard, then ran up stairs, and finding his lordship struggling with Mr. Swan, who was nearly exhausted with loss of blood, the major fired, and wounded Fitzgerald in the shoulder. His lordship was then conveyed to the castle, and from thence to Newgate, where he died on the 5th of June, from anxiety of mind and the wound he had received. Captain Ryan died on the 23rd of May.

23. Lady Edward Fitzgerald, the celebrated Pamela, daughter of the duke of Orleans, ordered to quit the kingdom.

24. The Irish rebels attacked the towns of Carlow and Naas, from which they were repulsed with loss. Next day they marched 15,000 strong against Wexford, and upon defeating the garrison, which sallied forth to meet them, obtained possession of the town. Subsequently they became masters of Enniscorthy; but being driven back with great slaughter, from New Ross, they wreaked their vengeance upon their captives at Wexford in the most barbarous manner; inflicting death upon more than a hundred persons in every shape that cruelty could devise.

27. Owing to some observations on the 25th, in parliament, Mr. Pitt and Mr. Tierney met on Sunday on Putney-heath to fight a duel. After discharging two cases of pistols, Pitt fired into the air, and the affair ended.

June 4. Sir Edward Crosbie and others hanged for treason in Dublin.

12. General Nugent attacked the rebels, 5000 strong, commanded by Munro, near Ballynahinch, and routed them with great slaughter. This victory quelled the insurrection in the north.

19. Several militia regiments having volunteered to serve in Ireland, a bill was introduced to empower the king to accept the offers of such regiments. It was opposed by Nicholls, Banks, Tierney, and Lawrence Palk, as a violation of the constitutional principle on which the militia was established; but it became a law.

20. Charles marquis Cornwallis, whose political and military character was eminent, arrived in Dublin to supersede lord Camden in the viceroyship.

21. General Lake attacked the main body of the rebels in their encampment on Vinegar-hill; and after a vigorous resistance, so completely routed them, that nothing but pillagers subsequently remained in arms. Wexford and other places, which the insurgents were in possession of, were delivered up, and the insurrection in the south completely put down.

29. Parliament prorogued, the king congratulating the houses on the national zeal against the common enemy.

July 17. Johnson, the bookseller, found guilty, before lord Kenyon, of a libel, in selling Gilbert Wakefield's answer to a courtly pamphlet of the bishop of Llandaff, in which the prelate, in his horror of French principles, had evinced an unexpected, and as many thought inconsistent, zeal, in favour of the war and the minister. Jordan, Cuthell, Williams, and Flower, were also persecuted, on account of Wakefield's pamphlet, as was the author himself.



19. A. O'Connor, M'Nevin, Emmett, and other state prisoners, were pardoned, on condition of giving all the information they possessed relative to the conspiracy. An amnesty was soon after published by the new lord lieutenant, who discouraged the violent proceedings of the Orangemen, and adopted a system of moderation. Some examples however were deemed necessary. Both the Sheares were executed, the revolutionary address (*Ann. Reg.* xl. 43) found on the person and in the hand-writing of one of the brothers, precluding mercy; also O'Byrne and M'Can. Mr. Oliver Bond, a commercial man of great wealth and high character, was pardoned.

*Aug. 1. BATTLE OF THE NILE.*—A strong British squadron, under admiral Nelson, had long been in anxious pursuit of the Toulon fleet. At length it was descried at anchor across the bay of Aboukir, near the mouth of the Nile, commanded by admiral Brueys, in the *L'Orient* of 120 guns. Each fleet consisted of 13 sail of the line. Nelson decided on an immediate attack, and regardless of the position of the French, protected by shoals and batteries, he ran into close engagement, in which operation an English 74 grounded. The first day's conflict terminated in the blowing up of the *L'Orient*, the admiral and his crew, to the number of 1000, perishing in the explosion; and the second day's engagement in a victory, the most splendid in our naval annals. Nine sail of the line were captured, while two more and two frigates were destroyed. Brueys in the action committed the great error of not getting his fleet under weigh, by which the British were enabled with superior force to beat each ship in succession, while riding at anchor. The loss of the English was 900 sailors killed; that of the French far greater.

2. Died in his 53rd year, on the Liverpool stage, while performing the part of the Stranger in the play of that name, John Palmer, a popular comedian. Mr. Palmer had recently suffered domestic bereavements, which are supposed to have given a painful application to some passages in the performance, that produced a fatal excitement.

18. The *Leander*, 74, captured by the *Le Généreux*, 74, after a contest of six hours and a half.

22. The French to the number of 700, under General Humbert, landed at Killala in Ireland.

*Sept. 2. The Daily Advertiser*, one of the oldest London diurnal prints sold to the proprietors of the *Oracle*, with which it was incorporated.

8. General Lake attacked the united French and rebel force at Ballinamuck, and

compelled the French to surrender at discretion. When the return of prisoners was made, it excited surprise that such a handful of invaders should have had the temerity to penetrate into the heart of the kingdom; the whole number, Sarazin and Humbert included, amounting only to 844.

The French completed the subjugation of Switzerland, by defeating, after an obstinate resistance, the inhabitants of Unterwalden, near the lake of Lucerne: all the cantons accepted the constitutions imposed upon them by their Gallic invaders. Geneva was united to the French republic, and became the capital of a new department.

11. The Porte, incensed by the invasion of Egypt, declared war against France, and formed an alliance with its old foe the court of St. Petersburg. The new sovereign of Russia, in whose character passion predominated over principle, was violent in his declaration against the French revolution, and had signified his intention of marching an army into France for the restoration of the Bourbons.

*Oct. 4.* The metropolis illuminated to celebrate the victory of the Nile.

12. *CAPTURE OF WOLFE TONE.*—Sir John B. Warren captured the *Hoche* and six frigates, destined for the support of the insurgent cause in Ireland. Aboard the *Hoche* was the celebrated Theobald Wolfe Tone, a man of courage and ability, and the founder of the society of United Irishmen. This ardent spirit was arraigned before a court-martial, to which he made a bold and clever address. He anticipated the vengeance of the law by terminating his own existence in prison, at the moment the court of king's bench had, on the motion of Mr. Curran, interfered by habeas corpus, to prevent his execution. Mr. Tone was the last victim to the Irish rebellion, an enterprize more alarming than dangerous, and not less weakly conducted than rashly begun. It is computed that in its short and sanguinary course, 30,000 lives were sacrificed. Although the catholic peasantry were of necessity the instruments of the insurrection, yet the leaders generally belonged to other religious communities. The higher description of catholics, whether ecclesiastical or civil, maintained their loyalty, and went even so far as to publish a paper signed by the twenty-two titular bishops and archbishops, with the lords Fingal, Southwell, Gormanstown, and Kenmure, sir Edward Bellew, &c. dissuading their countrymen from joining in the rebellion.

26. A violent insurrection against the French at Cairo, which was not suppressed without much bloodshed. Numerous actions followed against the Mamelukes and

Arabs, in which the French were successful, and they established their authority through the greater part of Egypt. Buonaparte affected great respect for the Mahometan worship; and at the close of the year prepared to invade Syria, where Ibrahim Bey had taken refuge, under the protection of Djezzar Oglou, the pacha of Acre.

Nov. 15. The island of Minorca surrendered to a British force under general C. Stuart, and soon after Gozza, near Malta, to a detachment of admiral Nelson's squadron.

The French prisoners in England were estimated at 27,000, the English in France at 6000.

20. PARLIAMENT opened by the king, who descanted upon the victory of the Nile, the suppression of the Irish rebellion, the warlike decision of the Porte, and the magnanimity of the emperor of Russia.

23. The king of Naples alarmed by the near approximation of the French republicans, entered the Romish territory at the head of 80,000 men, accompanied by Mack the Austrian general. Their triumph however was short. Championnet, collecting the scattered corps of the French, marched against the Neapolitans, and though greatly inferior in number, soon reduced them to the necessity of acting on the defensive.

24. Napper Tandy and his confederates, charged with treasonable practices, were arrested in Hamburg, by command of the British minister: the minister of France claimed them as French citizens, and the senate, unwilling to offend either power, came to no decision on the subject.

27. A day of thanksgiving.

Dec. 3. Coni, the strongest fortress in Italy, surrendered to the Austrians.

4. INCOME TAX.—The triple assessment of last session, which Mr. Pitt termed his "new and solid system of finance," having been found oppressive and unproductive, he came forward with a fresh expedient for raising the chief supplies within the year. This was the celebrated tax on income. In substance his resolutions were, that the augmentation of the assessed taxes should be repealed, and in its place a duty of ten per cent upon income be substituted, to commence with incomes above 60*l.* a year, but in a reduced ratio from that sum to 200*l.*; the return of income by individuals to be according to their own statement, but liable to be checked by surveyors, if there were reason to suspect deficiency. He calculated the national income at 102 millions, which would produce a tax of 10 millions. Objections were made to the equity of the principle of taxing the produce of industry

and capital in an equal ratio. But the resolutions were well received; they passed three readings before the holidays, and a bill founded upon them became law in the ensuing year.

9. The French directory deposed from his Italian dominions the king of Sardinia.

15. An army of 60,000 Russians arrived at Brunn in Moravia, under Suvarof, and were joyfully received by the Austrian court.

18. Provisional treaty concluded between the emperor of Russia and England, the chief object of which was to induce Prussia to join in the new confederacy against France. Failing in this, Paul stipulated, on condition of a monthly subsidy from England, to have ready for the field 45,000 men, to be "employed wherever the utility of the common cause should require." Prussia firmly, but in guarded terms, declined to accede to this coalition.

19. On the second reading of the bill for the continued suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act, remarks were made by Mr. Courtenay and sir Francis Burdett, on the severe treatment of the state prisoners, especially in Cold Bath Fields. The number now imprisoned was seventy, among them colonel Despard; but the reports of their cruel treatment was contradicted by the ministerialists.

24. In the night the thermometer was 14 degrees below the freezing point.

AMERICA.—The disregard of national rights by the French government nearly involved them in a dispute with the United States of America. Agreeably with the interpretation of international law by the directory, neutral vessels were declared subject to capture and condemnation, if any portion of their cargoes consisted of British manufactures; and if the subjects of any state at peace or in alliance with France were found on board a British vessel, they were pronounced pirates. America having vainly remonstrated against these unjust decrees, commissions for reprisals at sea were issued by the states, the military were augmented, and the supreme command of the forces confided to general Washington.

St. DOMINGO.—The negro chieftain, Toussaint l'Ouverture, was left in possession of St. Domingo during this year; the English troops having evacuated the island in May, and the French before the close of autumn.

NETHERLANDS.—The oppressions of the directory in Belgium, especially their military conscriptions, excited a formidable insurrection during the autumn, which was not quelled without bloodshed.

DISCOVERIES AND INVENTIONS.—Dr. Herschel discovered four additional satellites to the planet bearing his name.



The manufactory of Bolton and Watts lighted with gas.

Life-boat invented by Greathead.

An improvement made in gun-making, the barrel being bored out of a solid piece of steel.

Gypsum found in America to be a valuable manure.

A patent granted for hanging a window-sash and shutters, without the appearance of lines and pulleys.

A patent was granted to a tailor of Finsbury, for making gentlemen's breeches, so as to do away with all the inconveniences hitherto complained of.

ARMY AND NAVY.—The British army consisted of 41 regiments of cavalry; 110 infantry; 30 fencible cavalry; 42 fencible infantry; 110 of old and new militia; Lesides invalids and volunteer-corps of 100,000 men more. The number of field-marsals, 6; generals, 289; colonels, 325; lieutenant-colonels, 648; majors, 595; total 1863. The British navy in commission consisted of 140 ships of the line; 22 of 50 guns; 165 frigates; 317 sloops; with part of which, the Texel was blockaded by Duncan; Brest by Bridport; and Cadiz by St. Vincent. The number of admirals was 102; post-captains, 520; commanders, 359; lieutenants, 2008; total 2989.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—John Williams, LL.D., an eminent dissenting divine. At his seat at Downing, Flintshire, Thomas Pennant, 72, an agreeable writer, a florist, tourist, and zoologist. William Jennings, the greatest stockholder in England. At Baltimore, Robert Merry, an accomplished but affected poet, well known in England by his signature of *Della Crusca*. John Zephaniah Holwell, 87, an intelligent writer on East India affairs, and one of the sufferers in the Black Hole at Calcutta in 1756. George Vancouver, the circumnavigator, and a captain in the British navy. At Chantilly, near Paris, Thomas Muir, 33; he was one of the victims of the state trials in Scotland, in 1793, and who after being brought off from Sydney in an American vessel, had undergone surprizing adventures.

A.D. 1799. PROSPECTS OF THE YEAR.—This year is memorable by the effort of a third confederacy of Europe against the power of France. English subsidies brought into the field the hordes of Russia; and Austria, encouraged by such powerful co-operation, abruptly terminated the protracted negotiations at Radstadt, and resumed hostilities against the republic. The scene of warfare extended over the whole surface of Italy, along the banks of the Rhine, among the marshes and canals of Holland, and amidst the lakes and mountains of Switzerland. After gigantic efforts on both sides, the

campaign ended with the loss of Italy, with the exception of Genoa, by the French, who however still retained for their frontier, in defiance of their antagonists, the iron barrier of the Alps, and the entire left side of the Rhine. They were relieved at the end of the year by the sudden defection of Russia from the coalition. Meanwhile a great change was effected in France; the directorial government, which had become weak and unpopular, was overthrown, and the consular establishment substituted. By this revolution, the ascendancy of the military over the civil power was confirmed, and long kept paramount in France. The offensive part taken by England in the third coalition, consisted of an unsuccessful effort to revolutionise Holland, and in aiding with her naval force the royalists in Italy, in the restoration of the pope and the queen of Naples. The death of Tippoo Saib, and the dismemberment of his kingdom, formed another feature in foreign transactions.

Jan. 1. Athenæum at Liverpool opened.

2. Sir Sidney Smith arrived at Constantinople on a mission from this country, and was favourably received.

6. A soldier robbed the Mint of 2000 guineas, but was taken at Dover.

8. The lease of Don Saltero's coffee-house at Chelsea was sold, with all the curiosities. It was first opened in 1695 by one Salter, a barber, and became a noted place of resort, and depository of rarities, the gifts of naval officers, and the superfluities of sir Hans Sloane's museum. It is mentioned in the "Tatler," No. 34, where the don is ridiculed for his credulity in appropriating his hats and pincushions to queen Elizabeth's chambermaids.

10. The French ministers, who had been carrying on negotiations during the whole of last year, relative to German boundaries at Radstadt, informed the emperor of their determination to leave the place, if the Russian troops were permitted to enter his dominions.

12. The corporation of Cork passed resolutions favorable to a legislative union between Britain and Ireland.

14. Five English gentlemen who had been sent to investigate the title of Vizier Ally, were assassinated by his orders at Benares.

22. A royal message delivered to both houses of parliament, recommending a LEGISLATIVE UNION between England and Ireland, in order the better to defeat the common enemy of both countries. On the 31st, Mr. Pitt brought forward a series of resolutions, which were almost unanimously adopted, and with a joint address from both houses, were presented to the king as the basis of the contemplated incorporation of

the two kingdoms. [For the terms of the union, see July 2nd, 1800, when this great measure was completed.] The Irish house of lords was in favour of the union. The commons divided, 109 to 105 against it. The English house of commons on the same question divided, 140 for, 15 against it. Mr. Fox opposed the union from the beginning (*Ann. Reg.* xlv. 1); he apprehended that from the manner in which the Irish representatives were returned, they would be constantly found in the ranks of whoever was minister, and give him a preponderating influence over every parliamentary opposition.

24. Naples surrendered to the French after a spirited resistance, chiefly from the Lazzaroni, who were averse to a change in established institutions.

31. The fortress of Eherenbritstein, which had been blockaded since 1797, surrendered to the French; by which they became masters of both sides of the Rhine, from Dusseldorf to Schaffhausen.

*Feb. 2.* A young woman, returning from Impington to Cambridge, was overtaken by a snow-storm, and from fatigue fell down, when she was covered with the snow, in which she continued eight days without food. Being discovered by a farmer, her life was saved, though she lost her feet by mortification.

20. El-Arich surrendered to Buonaparte: soon after, Gaza opened her gates, and Jaffa was carried by storm. Palestine was thus overrun, and the victor continued his triumphant march towards Acre.

21. Rev. Gilbert Wakefield tried for his pamphlet in answer to the bishop of Llandaff (*ante* p. 601), and condemned to pay a fine of 100*l.*, and to suffer two years' imprisonment. At first this eminent scholar was confined in the King's-bench prison, but was soon removed to the common gaol of Dorchester.

27. A general fast-day.

*Mar. 1.* The directory having declared war against the emperor, Jourdan, at the head of 40,000 men, crossed the Rhine at Kehl and Basle.

5. The East India Company gave up the point of recruiting for its own service. Recruits in future were to be engaged for ten years, leaving it to their option to enlist for a further term of five years, the company stipulating to defray the expense of their passage home.

Archduke Charles crossed the Leck.

6. The snow lay so thick on the ground that the passage of the Manchester and Carlisle coaches was impeded, and the mails forwarded on horseback.

8. Massena took by assault the fortress of Luciensteig, cut out of a rock in the channel of the Rhine, and the only passage

through the Rhætian Alps between the Voralberg and the Grisons.

13. Nearly two-thirds of Pera, a suburb of Constantinople, destroyed by fire.

16. By the accidental sinking of the pavement a well was discovered near the front gate of the Royal-exchange, which had not been used for 600 years. The water being of excellent quality, the ward of Cornhill purposed erecting a pump over it.

18. SIEGE OF ACRE.—Buonaparte reached Acre on the 18th, and on the 20th opened his trenches. Sir Sidney Smith, in the *Tigre* of 84 guns, was in the road. He had captured the French flotilla laden with their besieging train. However, the French pushed their works within half-musket shot of the town-ditch, and, having made a breach, attempted to carry the place by assault, but were repulsed. An alternation of attacks and sorties followed for the space of sixty days, in which Buonaparte pitilessly sacrificed his bravest soldiers, and was at last compelled to raise the siege.

25. Battle of Stockach, between the archduke Charles and Jourdan. Ten thousand men were left dead or dying on the field, and the French compelled to retreat towards the Rhine.

*Apr. 5.* Battle of Magnan: the Austrians, under Kray, being joined by the vanguard of the Russians, forced the French, under Scherer, to retreat across the Mincio. This was Scherer's third defeat, and his retreat rendered unavailing the success of Lecourbe in the Tyrol, who withdrew into the Engadine. At the opening of the campaign, the whole of Italy was in possession of the French; and the revolutionary spirit having strongly seized the more enterprising of the Italians, a native auxiliary force might have been raised, which would have enabled them to defy the efforts of the combined forces; but the proceedings of the French Directory had long been marked by arrogance and imbecility, and their generals, especially Scherer, the late minister of war, were unequal to the emergency.

14. General Suvarof assumed the command of the Austro-Russian armies in Italy. In a short time the French were expelled from the principal towns in the north, which compelled Macdonald to evacuate the kingdom of Naples, and cross the Appennines.

15. Orders issued on the parade, St. James's-park, for disbanding the 5th, or Royal Irish regiment of dragoons, for insubordination; the officers to continue on full-pay till December, and then be placed on half-pay.

Sackville (earl of Thanet), Denis O'Brien, R. Ferguson, T. Thompson, and



T. G. Brown, were tried for a riot and attempt at rescue at Maidstone, at the conclusion of the trials of O'Connor and others for high treason. Lord Thanet and Ferguson were found guilty, fined, and sentenced to one year's imprisonment.

16. A powerful army of Turks having assembled, from Damascus and about Mount Tabor, to raise the siege of Acre, they were suddenly attacked by Buonaparte, and great numbers driven into the Jordan. What most surprised the Infidels was to be at once beaten through a line of nine leagues; so little were they acquainted with the rapid combinations of European tactics.

28. The French plenipotentiaries at Radstadt, Bonnier and Roberjot, were waylaid and assassinated near Radstadt, by a troop of Szeckler's hussars, or persons resembling them. Jean Debry was also left for dead, but recovered. The perpetrators of this base crime were never discovered; the infamy is shared between the French emigrants and Austrians.

The Austrians under Melas entered Milan. At Bortero the French under Serurier, to the number of 3000, surrendered.

May 3. Benjamin Flower, the printer of the "Cambridge Intelligencer," was brought to the bar of the lords for reflecting, in a paragraph, on the bishop of Llandaff's speech, on the subject of a union with Ireland; and lord Grenville moved that he be fined 100*l.*, and committed to Newgate for six months. Lord Holland objected to this summary proceeding; but it was justified by lord Kenyon, and the motion was carried.

20. Buonaparte compelled to raise the siege of Acre. He cheered his followers—for this reverse met with his accustomed bombast—informing them that "new dangers and glory awaited them."

27. The Russians entered Turin.

30. James Perry, the editor; John Vint, the printer; and George Ross, the publisher of the "Courier" newspaper, fined, and sentenced to imprisonment, for a paragraph, stating "the emperor of Russia to be a tyrant among his own subjects, and ridiculous to the rest of Europe."

June 5. Archduke Charles compelled Massena to evacuate Zurich.

15. Buonaparte reached Cairo from Acre, having traversed the Great Desert, 70 leagues wide, which separates Asia from Africa.

18. Suvarof defeated Macdonald on the Trebia, with immense loss.

20. Cardinal Ruffo, at the head of the royalists and some Russian auxiliaries, entered Naples. Soon after, a confederate force of English, Russians, Italians, Portuguese, and Turks entered the port under the convoy of lord Nelson, and invested the

castle of St. Elmo. Capua and Gaeta were afterwards taken by the assistance of the English. A severe vengeance was shortly after inflicted, in contravention of a solemn treaty, on the Neapolitan patriots, with the culpable connivance of Nelson, acting under the influence of the profligate wife of the English ambassador, sir William Hamilton.

21. George III. inspected the volunteer corps of the metropolis, to the number of 12,200, at their respective stations.

18. CHANGES IN THE DIRECTORY.—The annual renewal of one-third of the legislature did not improve the position of the directory, who had become unpopular from the expedients to which their financial difficulties had compelled them to resort, and the reverses of the republican armies. On the removal of Rewbel on the 18th, by the lot of secession, the other directors, with the exception of Barras, relinquished the directorial purple. Four new rulers were therefore chosen; among whom were the silent and speculative abbé Sieyes, then ambassador at Berlin. These changes did not restore public confidence, and a general insurrection against the existing authorities prevailed in the western departments.

July 7. The Kennet and Avon canal opened.

25. Battle of Aboukir, in which the Turks lost 18,000 men, and the French 1000. By this signal victory, Buonaparte retrieved French affairs in Egypt, which had suffered during his absence in Syria.

28. Mantua, with a garrison of 10,000 men, dishonourably surrendered to the Austrians.

Aug. 1. The king reviewed the Kentish volunteers, to the number of 5000, at lord Romney's seat. Seven thousand persons dined in marquees erected on the lawn.

16. BATTLE OF NOVI.—The combined armies, under Suvarof and Melas, defeated the French under Joubert and Moreau. It was the most bloody encounter of the campaign. Three times Suvarof charged the centre of the enemy in person, at the head of his hardy veterans, and three times he was repulsed by the valour of the French. The gallant Joubert, leading on the French infantry to the charge, was struck by a ball which pierced his heart. The loss on both sides, in killed and wounded, was estimated at 20,000 men. The fortune of the day was decided by Melas turning the right wing of the French.

20. The valuable Dutch settlement of Surinam surrendered to the English, under lord H. Seymour.

24. BUONAPARTE LEAVES EGYPT.—Party dissensions in France, her danger from external foes, and the opening these difficulties afforded to the ambition of this ex-

traordinary leader, seems to have suddenly determined him to quit Egypt. His campaign in the East had been signalised by splendid triumphs, and only one reverse. It greatly increased his European fame, by showing him no less a Mahomet than a Zinghis Khan. He had availed himself of the usages of warfare, as well as of the superstitions of Islamism. The military execution of his Turkish prisoners at Jaffa, though sanctioned by the strict rules of modern war on flagrant breaches of parole, was one of those sanguinary acts that could only have been perpetrated in a barbarous region. Buonaparte gave no intimation of his departure, further than the following brief announcement to the army, dated August 23rd:—"In consequence of news from Europe, I have determined immediately to return to France. I leave the command of the army to general Kleber. It shall hear from me speedily: *this is all I can say at present.*" Next day he sailed from the road of Aboukir, taking with him Berthier, Lannes, Murat, Marmont, Andreossi, and Bessieres; with the philosophers Berthollet, Mongé, and Arnaud. On September 30th he reached Corsica, and October 7th, landed at Frejus. The same good fortune, in escaping the enemies' cruisers, attended him in leaving and returning to France.

26. EXPEDITION TO HOLLAND.—While the armies of France were fully occupied in Italy and Germany, a favourable opportunity seemed to offer for wresting Holland from her dominion. An expedition, under sir Ralph Abercrombie, having set sail from England on the 13th, came to anchor in about a fortnight, off the Helder, where the troops disembarked. On the 30th, admiral Mitchel summoned the Dutch fleet to surrender, and to hoist the Orange flag, which was complied with unresistingly. The number of ships captured were eight of the line, besides smaller rates, and four Indiamen. An affair with general Brune, who commanded the French and Dutch troops, to the amount of 25,000, September 10th, terminated in favour of the English. On the 13th, the duke of York assumed the chief command of the army, which amounted to nearly 35,000 effective men, including 17,000 Russians. On the 2nd of October, general Brune was driven from his position, and forced to take up a new one near Beverwyck. An attempt made to force this position failed: this, and the severe defeat of the Russians by Vandamme, led to a suspension of arms. The British commanders, finding no support from the inhabitants, resolved to relinquish the enterprise. In conformity with this resolution, they evacuated Holland by capitulation; and, as the price of being suffered to

re-embark without molestation, 8000 seamen, Dutch or French, prisoners in England, were to be liberated.

29. Died, at Valence in France, whither he had been conveyed by order of the directory, pope Pius VI., aged 82.

Sept. 11. Tortona surrendered to Suvarof. Italy had been reconquered in less time than it had been lost by the disasters of the Austrians in 1796. In obedience to his capricious master, Suvarof now directed his march towards Switzerland, where a second army of Russians, under Korsakoff, had joined the archduke Charles at Schaffhausen. This formed the right wing of an extended military line, having for its centre the force under Suvarof, and for its left, in Italy, the Austrians under Kray and Melas.

24. BATTLE OF ZURICH.—The approach of Suvarof with reinforcements determined Massena immediately to attack the enemy before him. At the first onset, the brave Austrian commander Hotze was killed. Zurich was entered, sword-in-hand, by the French, and Korsakoff, with the loss of his baggage and artillery, retreated by Bulach. Suvarof, enraged at this repulse, wrote to Korsakoff;—"You shall answer with your head if you make another retrograde step. I am coming to repair your errors."

PARLIAMENT was assembled, to enable the king to avail himself of the voluntary services of the militia. A bill for this purpose was forthwith introduced, allowing, instead of one-fourth, as permitted by the act of last session, three-fifths of the militia of each county to enlist in regular regiments, with a bounty of ten guineas to each man upon so enlisting. The other parliamentary business of the year related chiefly to commercial and financial matters.

27. Commodore Trowbridge having blockaded the port of Civita Vecchia, the city of Rome surrendered to the arms of Britain; a destiny of this famous capital of the world never revealed by the augurs of the Julian or Augustan ages! The French garrison, aware of the fate of the patriots of Naples, refused to capitulate till the safety of those of Rome was guaranteed: to which Trowbridge generously acceded, unwilling to be the instrument of the vengeance of the queen of Naples.

Oct. 4. Suvarof penetrated to Schwitz, and carried by assault the post of Brunnen, with the bridge over Molen, after a desperate resistance from Lecourbe. This was the last of his triumphs; he was unable to join Korsakoff. Had he pushed through the valley of the Glaris, he would have fallen into the snare which Massena had laid for him. Indignant at this check, he sullenly retired into the Grisons, closely pursued by the French, who cut off a large



part of his heavy artillery and baggage. On the 7th, Korsakoff again advanced, but the indefatigable Massena—now the Ajax of France—passing rapidly from the right to the left of the French line, gave him another repulse. It was incessant fighting, and the slaughter dreadful. Constance, three times won and lost, remained at last with the republicans. In the space of fifteen days 30,000 men on both sides are said (*Belsh. Hist.*, xi. 151) to have fallen victims to the sword.

9. The *La Lutine*, which had sailed from Yarmouth with 600,000 dollars on board, shipped by English merchants for the relief of commercial houses in Hamburg, foundered at sea: every soul on board perished, except Schabracq, a notary-public, who was picked up.

28. Sir George Dunbar, bart., major of the 14th Light Dragoons, shot himself with a pistol at his house in Norwich. The catastrophe arose out of a quarrel, at mess, with his brother officers, which preyed on the baronet's mind.

Nov. 7. The directory gave a grand entertainment, in the church of St. Sulpice, to Buonaparte and Moreau, who a few days before had met, for the first time in their lives, at the house of Gohier, president of the directory. Seven hundred and fifty guests were present; but no women or spectators were admitted. The president gave for a toast, "*Peace*;" and Buonaparte, the "Union of all Frenchmen."

9. DISSOLUTION OF THE DIRECTORY.—The reception of Buonaparte at Paris, and on his journey from Frejus, had been most enthusiastic. He was considered the good genius of France, who would extricate her from all her difficulties. The directory had become unpopular from its arrogance, tyranny, and rapacity; and, exclusive of the royalists, the country was divided into the two prevalent parties of the moderate and violent republicans. All parties paid court to Buonaparte, and confided to him their designs; but his aim was to attach the military, in which he succeeded. After some time passed in political intrigues, the moderates, at the head of whom was Sieyes, agreed upon a scheme for the subversion of the existing government. An alarm of a conspiracy was spread; the council of elders, a majority of whom were favourable to the design, was suddenly assembled, and a decree passed to remove the legislative sittings to St. Cloud, and to invest Buonaparte with the command of every species of armed force in the capital. The result of these measures was the resignation, voluntary or forced, of the three directors, Gohier, Moulins, and Barras, who were opposed to the movement, Ducos and Sieyes being favourable. On the 9th,

the legislature met at St. Cloud; the council of elders in the Great Gallery, and that of 500, of whom Lucien Buonaparte was president, in the Orangery. Buonaparte entered the council of elders, and, in an animated address, described the dangers that menaced the republic, and conjured them to associate their wisdom with the force which surrounded him. A member using the word "Constitution," Buonaparte exclaimed, "The Constitution! It has been trodden under foot, and used as a cloak for all manner of tyranny."—*Ann. Reg.*, xli. 20. Meanwhile a violent debate was going on in the Orangery, several members insisting upon knowing why the place of sitting had been changed. The president endeavoured to allay this storm; but the removal had created great heat, and the cry was, "Down with the dictator! No dictator!" At that moment Buonaparte himself entered, bareheaded, followed by four grenadiers: on which several members exclaimed, "Who is that? No sabres here! No armed men!" while others descending into the hall, collared him, calling him "Outlaw," and pushed him towards the door. One member aimed a blow at him with a dagger, which was parried by a grenadier. Disconcerted at this rough treatment (*Hazlit's Life of Napoleon*, ii. 297), general Lefebvre came to his aid; and Buonaparte retiring, mounted his horse, and addressed the troops outside. His brother Lucien also made a forcible appeal to the military, and the result was, that a picket of grenadiers entered the hall, and, the drums beating the *pas de charge*, cleared it at the point of the bayonet. In the evening the council of elders, and that of the 500 again assembled; but the latter was a more compliant assemblage than had met a few hours before. Lucien Buonaparte congratulated the members present on the deliverance they had obtained from the yoke of demagogues and assassins. His speech was interrupted only by applause. The way being now sufficiently prepared, Boulay de la Meurthe, in an able speech, urged the necessity of a radical change in the constitution, and an intermediary project, already adopted by the council of elders, was introduced. By this it was declared that the directory had ceased to exist; that sixty-one deputies were disqualified, by their violence, for the national representation; that a provisional consular commission should be appointed, composed of citizens Sieyes, Ducos, and Buonaparte; and that the two councils should name committees, of 25 members each, to prepare a new constitution. Thus terminated the famous revolution of the 18th Brumaire, and which, like that of Thermidor, in 1796, was wholly effected in

the short space of twenty-four hours (*Belsh. Hist.*, xl. 223). Both were accomplished after the Cromwellian fashion, the intervention of the soldiery, and the forcible exclusion of refractory representatives, being the leading features.

18. In the interval between the abolition of one constitution and the creation of another, the consuls were vested with a dictatorship, in virtue of which, 59 of the most inveterate Jacobins were sentenced to banishment; but this decree was never carried into effect. Several rigid republicans, who had been exiled, were recalled. Among them, Carnot and Pastoret. Lucien Buonaparte was made minister of the interior; Talleyrand, of foreign affairs; Carnot, of war; and Fouché, of police. The tyrannical laws against emigrants and priests were softened or repealed. On the other hand, only twelve newspapers were allowed to be published. Before this purgation, there had been fifty journals in Paris, morning and evening.—*Ann. Reg.*, xlii. 50. They were, for the most part, badly printed, in respect of type and paper. The price was two sous; of which the hawkers were allowed one-third for profit.

27. The earl of Scarborough, with his sister, passing through a side of Fitzroy-square which was badly lighted, the coachman mistook his way, and drove over, into an area 10 or 12 feet deep. His lordship and sister escaped with slight contusions; the coachman had his ribs broken, and the footman died in consequence of his injuries.

Died, in his 90th year, Kien Long, emperor of China, over which he had reigned sixty-four years; and had the honour of receiving, successively, poetical addresses from Voltaire; the author of the "Pursuits of Literature;" and Peter Pindar.

*Dec. 6.* A meeting at the London-tavern to alleviate the distresses of the poor. The example of 1795 was recommended; and Mr. Forster stated, that in the month ending April 27th, 40,000 persons had been relieved, by 759,918 meals from the soup-shops, at an expense of 3476*l.* A subscription was opened.

13. CONSULAR CONSTITUTION.—The legislative committees having finished their labours in little more than a month, the new constitution was presented to the French nation. The government generally acknowledged to be the most desirable, was one adapted to practical uses, not to any preconceived theory. By the new code, the constitution was to consist of an executive composed of three consuls, one bearing the title of chief, and in fact possessing all the authority: of a conservative senate composed of eighty members, appointed for life; the first sixty to be nominated by the

consuls, and the number to be completed by adding two, annually, for ten years: and a legislative body of 300 members; with a tribunate of 100. The power of proposing new laws was vested in the executive, and the senate were to fill up vacancies in their own body. The integrity of the representative principle was obviously compromised in the consular system; but it was accepted by a vast majority of the citizens. The votes in favour of the constitution were 3,012,659; against it, 1562. Buonaparte was nominated the first consul, for ten years; Cambacères and Lebrun, second and third consuls, for five years. Sieyès, who had taken an active part in the revolution, and in framing the new constitution, was rewarded by the grant of an estate, in the vicinity of Paris, of the annual value of 15,000 francs.

14. DEATH OF GENERAL WASHINGTON.

—This great man, and chief founder of American independence, expired, in his 68th year, leaving a name likely to conciliate the general suffrages of posterity. Characters of greater brilliancy there may have been, but none possessing more solid worth and usefulness. Judgment and good sense were the predominant traits of his intellect, to the exclusion of fancy or vivacity, to which he made no pretension. Equally inaccessible to the flatteries of life, or the suggestions of despondency, he held on his firm and patriotic course with undeviating consistency. Washington left a widow, but no issue; and honours of every kind were paid to his memory by his grateful countrymen.

25. Buonaparte was no sooner made first consul than he made a direct overture to the king of England for peace. It was written with manly simplicity, and an appearance of sincerity, but did not meet with a corresponding return. It was handed to lord Grenville, who, in a long official reply, adverted to the origin of the war; and without assuming to prescribe a form of government to France, expressed an opinion, intimating that the "restoration of the ancient line of princes, under whom France had enjoyed so many centuries of prosperity," would afford the best guarantee for the maintenance of peace between the two countries. The last condition, involving in its attainment the destruction of the existing government in France, of course put an end to all further communications.

30. French consuls decree that the remains of Pius VI. should receive sepulchral rites, which for six months had been denied them.

31. The French prisoners in England amounted to 25,646, and the consuls signified their intentions of discontinuing the usual remittance for their subsistence. The



French government had hitherto maintained the French prisoners in England, and England had maintained the English prisoners in France; but the consuls reckoned on a saving by discontinuing this system; as the number of prisoners was fewer, and the price of provisions less, in France than in England.

**PRICES OF CORN.**—The average price per bushel of wheat this month was 8s. 5d.; barley, 4s. 5d.; oats, 3s. 5d.

**DEATH OF TIPPoo SAIB.**—Among the events of this year was the death of Tippoo Sultan, and the extinction of the Mysore kingdom. This chief ill brooked the curtailment of his dominions, and had opened negotiations with the French republic. Upon the 5th of May, his capital (Seringapatam) being stormed, Tippoo, after contesting every inch of ground to the interior of his palace, was found, when the conflict ceased, amidst a heap of slain. His two sons had previously surrendered, upon an assurance of safety. His territories were divided by the conquerors; the English taking the southern portion and Seringapatam, by which their empire reached from sea to sea. The Nizam and the Mahrattas had the remainder; but the latter refused their portion, and it fell to the other partners in the dismemberment.

**IRISH REBELLION.**—The amount of claims for damage sustained by the loyalists from the rebels, in the summer of 1798, were, for the county of Wexford, 311,341*l.*; Wicklow, 129,978*l.*; Mayo, 99,739*l.*; Kildare, 932,233*l.* The total of claims for all the counties was 792,508*l.*—*Ann. Reg.*, xli. 32.

**SCIENCE AND ARTS.**—A new instrument was invented by Lowry to engrave parallel lines.

The French introduced their new, but not very intelligible, system of weights and measures, founded on the kilogramme and the metre, or ten millionth part of the distance from the pole to the equator.

The metaphysics and poetry of Germany began to be noticed in England: the former from Kant's writings, and the latter from the plays of Schiller and Kotzebue.

Dr. Jenner, who had begun his investigations on the cow-pox so early as 1776, succeeded this year in getting it into extensive practice.

In the "Philosophical Transactions" was published an account of a sub-marine forest, examined by Mr. Correa, on the coast of Lincolnshire, near the village of Huttoft.

**ANNUAL OBITUARY.**—At Halle, John Reinhold Forster, LL.D., author of several works on natural history, and the gentleman who, with his son, accompanied captain Cook in his second voyage of dis-

covery. Thomas Payne, 82, who for forty years kept a bookseller's shop at the Mews-gate, and which obtained the name of "The Literary Coffee-house," from the number of literati frequenting it. Spallanzani, a celebrated Italian naturalist. Galvani, the discoverer of galvanism. William Melmoth, 89, author of "Letters of Pliny the Younger," &c. At the Carpenters' Arms, in the parish of Wick, James White, an unfortunate literary gentleman, author of the "Adventures of Richard Cœur de Lion," &c. James Burnet, called Lord Monboddo, 85, an eccentric metaphysical writer. William Seward, F.R.S., 52, biographical and anecdote writer. Joseph Towers, LL.D., dissenting minister, and an author of eminence. William Curtis, 53, author of "Flora Londinensis." At Athens, John Tweddell, 32, an accomplished scholar and traveller. Richard earl Howe, a successful English admiral. John Bacon, 59, the celebrated sculptor. At Bowood-park, John Ingenhousz, M.D., an ingenious natural philosopher. At Abbeville, Marmontel, 79, author of "Belisarius," and his own "Memoirs." Borda, 84, an eminent French mathematician.

**A.D. 1800. PROSPECTS OF THE YEAR.**—The first consul adopted prudent measures to secure himself in power. He conciliated the royalists, treated the clergy with respect, and offered peace to England and Austria. His amicable overtures not being favourably received, he sought peace by a vigorous prosecution of the war; and this, so far as Germany was concerned, was attained by the victories of Marengo and Hohenlinden. The fickle Paul of Russia not only withdrew from the confederacy against France, but revived, in hostility to England, the armed neutrality of the northern states. Malta, Goree, and Curaçao surrendered to the British arms; but the attacks on Ferrol and Cadiz failed. The union with Ireland was completed. The scarcity of this year was greater than the preceding, and occasioned tumults in London and other places. Parliament passed several measures to increase the supply and diminish the consumption of bread. But prosecutions being instituted, at the suit of the crown, against regrators, engrossers, and forestallers, the popular prejudice against an useful class of middlemen was inflamed, and the most effective mode of enforcing national economy, in the use of bread-corn, counteracted.

**Jan. 1.** There prevailed hot disputes in France and England about the commencement of the new century; some ascribing it to Jan. 1, 1800, and others, to Jan. 1, 1801; but the astronomer Lalande, who took part in the dispute, showed clearly that the year 1800 was part of the 18th

century. The same ridiculous question was agitated in 1700.

9. The Bank agreed to advance 3,000,000*l.* to government without interest, for six years, but liable to be called in, if the 3 per cent. consols rose to 80, on condition of a renewal of their charter to Aug. 1, 1833.

10. First soup-establishment for the poor in Spitalfields.

15. The question of the UNION being brought forward in the Irish house of commons, it was strenuously opposed by Grattan, Curran, and W. C. Plunkett. It was supported by Corry, the chancellor of the exchequer, and lord Castlereagh, secretary; and an approving address was carried by 138 against 96.

17. Chelmsford church fell in. It was erected, by the contributions of the townsmen, in 1424.

20. Correspondence with Talleyrand closed by a letter from lord Grenville of this date.

22. PARLIAMENT reassembled, and, in a message from the king, notice was taken of the late correspondence with France. A vehement debate ensued; but such was the dislike and suspicion of the French government, that an approving address was voted in the lords, by 79 to 6; and in the commons, by 260 to 64.

24. A convention signed between general Kleber and the grand vizier, for the evacuation of Egypt by the French troops. The negotiations had been carried on in concert with sir Sidney Smith, aboard the *Tigre*.

A storm blew down the remains of king John's castle at Old Ford, near Bow. It was built in 1203, and was the place where that prince usually slept after signing Magna Charta.

Feb. 6. REPENTANCE OF ORLEANS.—The duke of Orleans (Louis Philippe, the present French king) having arrived in London from Clifton, waited on Monsieur (afterwards Louis XVIII.), and on being introduced into his closet, addressed him by saying, "That he had come to ask forgiveness for all his faults, which he hoped would be forgotten. They were the effect of error, and were chiefly to be attributed to the evil councils of an intriguing woman (madame de Genlis), who had been entrusted with the care of his education. He was ready to shed the last drop of his blood in the reparation of his errors, and in defence of the rights of his lawful sovereign."—*Ann. Reg.*, xlii. 3. Monsieur then embraced the duke, and said he had no doubt of the sincerity of the professions he had just heard.

19. Resolutions in favour of peace were moved by Mr. Waithman, and carried at a common-hall of the city of London; 2000 persons were present.

26. SCARCITY OF BREAD.—An act came into force, prohibiting the sale of bread which had not been baked twenty-four hours. It was thought that the consumption of stale bread would be much less than new, and was intended to mitigate the prevailing scarcity; the price of bread having become higher than had ever before been known, owing to two successive bad harvests. Resolutions were also entered into by members of both houses of parliament, to lessen as much as possible the consumption of bread and flour in their families; and their example was generally followed by the superior ranks. Mr. Arthur Young estimated the average deficiency of the late harvest at rather above one-third.

Mar. 11. The Royal Institution, for the promotion of the fine and useful arts, held its first sittings.

At a conclave held at Venice, cardinal Chiaramonte, a native of Cesena, was elected pope, when he took the name of Pius VII.

17. Lord Keith's flag-ship the *Queen Charlotte* of 110 guns, caught fire just before day-break, while under easy sail, between Gorgona and Leghorn, and burnt to the water's edge, and then blew up, by which upwards of 700 lives were lost, the boats not being able to contain one-fourth of the crew. Lord Keith was at Leghorn when the accident happened.

20. British government refused to ratify the convention for the evacuation of Egypt by the French: upon which Kleber vigorously assailed the Turks, and defeated them.

21. Ionian republic, consisting of Zante, Corfu, and other Venetian islands, formed, under the protection of the Porte.

27. Legislative union agreed to in both houses of the Irish parliament, chiefly through the management of lord Castlereagh.

The crew of the *Danaë* frigate mutinied, and carried her into Brest harbour.

30. At the close of the assizes at Chelmsford, the judge having put the black cap on, to sentence a man for forgery, Mr. Garrow pointed out a variance in the spelling of the Christian name in the forged note and in the indictment: in the former it being abbreviated Bartw., and in the latter, Bartholomew. Baron Hotham held the objection to be fatal to the indictment, and the culprit escaped death.

Apr. 5. Lord Keith blockaded Genoa, which was besieged on the land side by the Austrians under Melas, and resolutely defended by Massena.

25. Moreau crossed the Rhine.

May 3. Defeated, with great loss, general Kray at Stockach.

5. Buonaparte leaves Paris to place him-



self at the head of the grand army of reserve, 50,000 strong, at Dijon.

15. James Hadfield discharged a pistol at the king from the pit of Drury-lane theatre. He had been in the army, and wounded in the head, and was soon discovered to be insane. On the morning of the same day, while the king was reviewing a battalion of the guards in Hyde-park, a spectator standing near his majesty was wounded by a ball-cartridge, fired in one of the volleys by a soldier, who was not discovered.

18. DEATH OF FIELD-MARSHAL SUVAROF.—This able but ferocious warrior died near Petersburg, in his 70th year. His death is supposed to have been hastened by chagrin; arising either out of the late check he met with in Switzerland, or the sudden change in Russian policy. He was not, however, disgraced, but received with distinction by the imperial court. Suvarof was of Swedish extraction, and originally intended for the legal profession, which he early abandoned for the more congenial pursuits of violence and slaughter. He was disinterested, affable even to buffoonery, superstitious, and desperately brave, but cruel to the vanquished.

20. Buonaparte, after astonishing efforts, passed the Great St. Bernard.

June 5. The French enter Pavia. On the same day Massena, after a pertinacious defence, surrendered Genoa to the Austrians; and that day the Austrian general Ott received orders to raise the siege.

14. General Kleber assassinated in his garden at Cairo. The general received four stabs; and Protain, the architect, was severely wounded in trying to parry the poniard of the murderer. The assassin had come from Aleppo across the desert, and confessed he was employed by the aga of the janizaries in the grand vizier's army.—*Menou's Dispatch, July 3rd.* He was executed after the Egyptian fashion, being impaled, having first had his right hand burnt; and three chiefs who were privy to, and had concealed the object of his atrocious mission, were beheaded, and their bodies burnt.

17. VICTORY OF MARENGO.—This irregular but sanguinary conflict decided the fate of Italy. It was fought on a plain six miles long, between Tortona and Alexandria. The French force, commanded by Buonaparte, was about 50,000, of which 3000 were cavalry: that of the Austrians, under Melas, 60,000; of which 15,000 were cavalry. The French were formed in two lines, with cavalry on the wings. Behind their centre was a defile, having a wood on the one side, and on the other a chain of vineyards extending to the village of Marengo. The Austrians were drawn

up on the banks of the Bormida, over which bridges had been thrown. About noon the battle began. Eighty pieces of cannon preceded the Austrian battalions, and discharged into the ranks of the French showers of shot and shells. After several hours' desperate fighting, the left of the French, under Victor, and the right, under Lannes, began to give way; and it was with difficulty the centre, commanded by the first consul, kept its ground. At this critical juncture the divisions of Desaix and Monnier arrived on the ground. The fortune of the battle now began to change. Unable to force the centre of the French, Melas tried to turn the defile in their rear by extending his wings. Weakening his centre for this movement, Buonaparte seized the opportunity to pierce it with a collective force; and Desaix with his fresh troops, falling with irresistible impetuosity on the left wing of the Austrians, they everywhere gave way. The Austrian cavalry, by charging en masse, attempted to retrieve the day, but were repulsed by Murat. Night coming on, the confusion was irremediable; and at the passage of the Bormida a terrible carnage ensued. The village clock struck ten, when the French, weary of slaughter, returned slowly to their camp, leaving the field covered with the dead and the dying. The loss of the Austrians, in killed, wounded, and prisoners, was 15,000; that of the French, 10,000, including the intrepid Desaix, who finished a short life (being only 32) of military glory in the arms of victory. The loss of the Austrians in the first month of the Italian campaign amounted to 60,000, and induced Melas, the day after the battle of Marengo, to propose an armistice. It was acceded to by the victor on the conditions that neither side should send reinforcements into Germany, and that the Austrians should surrender to the French Genoa, Tortona, Coni, and other strong places. Immediately after, Buonaparte re-established the Cisalpine republic, and, with Berthier, sung *Te Deum* in the cathedral of Milan, regardless, as he said, of the taunts of "the atheists of Paris."

28. Moreau, forcing Kray before him, penetrated to Munich.

July 2. UNION WITH IRELAND.—The act for this purpose received the royal assent, to commence January 1st, 1801. By this important instrument the established churches and legislatures of the two countries became consolidated, and the two kingdoms united, under the name of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. Four lords spiritual, by rotation of sessions, and twenty-eight temporal lords, elected for life, were to represent the peers of Ireland in the house of lords; and 100

commoners to sit in the house of commons. The laws and courts of each kingdom were to continue unchanged. The contributions of Britain and Ireland towards the public expenditure were, for twenty years, to be in the proportion of fifteen to two; but the interest of the public debts of each was to be separately defrayed.

4. Mr. Rusby found guilty of regrating, in buying corn in Mark-lane, and on the same day, in the same place, reselling it. Lord Kenyon said to the jury, "You have conferred by your verdict almost the greatest benefit on your country that ever was conferred by any jury" (*Ann. Reg.*, xlii. 23). During the existing scarcity, forestalling, regrating, and engrossing, excited as much popular—and seemingly, from the remark of the learned judge—judicial prejudice as witchcraft formerly.

12. First stone of the new dock in the Isle of Dogs laid.

Downing college incorporated.

15. Armistice agreed to in Germany.

22. Sir Francis Burdett complained, in the house of commons, of the treatment by governor Aris of the prisoners confined, under the suspension of the Habeas-corpus Act, in Cold-Bath-fields.

28. Preliminaries of peace between France and Austria signed at Paris, which the emperor refused to ratify, because England was not a party to them.

29. Parliamentary session closed.

Samuel F. Waddington tried at Worcester assizes, and found guilty of forestalling hops.

John S. Boothby Clopton, esq., committed suicide with a pistol. He was well known at the club-houses, and left an estate of 7000*l.* a year.

*Aug. 2.* The Union Act having received the assent of the Irish parliament, the session and their existence terminated.

Two new squares began to be formed on the duke of Bedford's Bloomsbury estate: one to be called Russell-square; the other, Tavistock-square.

10. A person by accident set fire to Radnor forest, and, owing to the dryness of the season, it burnt for thirty miles in circumference, destroying thousands of sheep and many cottages. The earl of Oxford and Mr. Lewis were the chief sufferers.

23. A sad accident happened near Selkirk in Scotland. Four young ladies—Miss Ayres, Miss Anderson, and the two Miss Scotts of Singlee—were drowned, while bathing in the Ettrick, which ran at the bottom of Mr. Scott's garden. It is supposed one of the ladies had got out of her depth, and all had perished in a vain attempt at saving her.

25. Sir Edward Pellew and sir James Pulteney fail in an attack on Ferrol.

27. Lord Keith despatched two sloops of war to burn the small town of Cesenatico, on the Adriatic Gulf; which fully succeeded in their mission, and retaliated on the inhabitants the offence they had given his lordship by arresting a British officer charged with dispatches.

29. The emperor of Russia, in an edict, complained of the interruption of the navigation of the Sound by British ships; and sequestered the property of British subjects in Russia.

30. The grand-jury of York recommend the enclosure of waste lands, of which there remain 7,800,000 acres in England, as the best preventative of future scarcity.

Died, Mrs. Montagu, sister of lord Rokeby, and author of an "Essay on the Writings of Shakspeare;" and distinguished for her hospitality to the chimney-sweepers, whom she regaled with roast-beef and plum-pudding, every May-day, on the lawn before her house. She was an excellent scholar and, like her name-sake, a celebrated letter-writer. Her estates, about 10,000*l.* per annum, devolved to her nephew Mr. Montagu.

31. Riots at Birmingham and other towns, owing to the high price of provisions. The houses of bakers and mealmen were violently attacked; and hardly any corn-factor could sleep in his bed with security. (*Belsh. Hist.* xii. 123.)

*Sept. 5.* Malta, the chief place of which, La Valetta, had been two years under blockade, surrendered to the British.

14. An inflammatory placard stuck on the Monument, urging the people to rescue themselves from famine by their own exertions, and take vengeance on monopolists and forestallers.—*Annual Register*, xlii. 212. In consequence, for several days, there were riotous assemblages, who began breaking the windows of bakers and other obnoxious persons. But by the prudence of lord mayor Combe, aided by the volunteers, no serious outrages were committed.

30. Joseph Buonaparte, on the part of the French republic, signed a treaty of amity and commerce with the United States of America.

*Oct. 9.* The British government refusing to negotiate on the basis of a separate peace with France, the correspondence between M. Otto and Lord Grenville was abruptly terminated.

31. The superb chapel of St. George, Windsor, finished in the Gothic style.

*Nov. 7.* Paul of Russia laid an embargo on British vessels to the number of 300, and their crews, contrary to usage in such cases, were taken out and sent into the interior; and all English property sequestered. The alleged ground of these outrages was that the English had taken



possession of Malta, without recognizing the right to the island of the order of St. John of Jerusalem, of which the emperor was grand-master.

9. PARLIAMENT opened by the king with a speech, chiefly referring to the high price of provisions.

10. Prussia takes possession of Cuxhaven under pretext of maintaining the neutrality of the north of Germany, and thereby occasions some uneasiness in England.

The guard of a Dover coach shot near Shooter's-hill, and the coach robbed by two highwaymen.

19. Mr. Abbot introduced a bill for ascertaining the population of Britain.

22. American congress assembled, for the first time, at the new city of Washington.

Dec. 3. The Austrian army, under the archduke John, attacked the French, under Moreau, at HOHENLINDEN; but, one of the Austrian columns losing its way, they were entirely defeated with the loss of 10,000 men and eighty pieces of cannon. After this victory Moreau penetrated into the Salzburg territory, and Augereau having made himself master of Bamberg, and Brune of Trent, the emperor was again induced to propose an armistice, which was agreed to on the 25th.

15. ARMED NEUTRALITY.—The northern powers revived the armed neutrality for the protection of maritime rights, to which Prussia acceded. The basis of this league was:—1. That merchant ships under convoy are not liable to search. 2. That the effects which belong to the subjects of the belligerent powers in neutral ships, with the exception of contraband goods, shall be free. 3. That arms and ammunition only shall be considered as contraband. (*Belsh. Hist.*, xii. 99.) These maxims of international law were especially directed against England; and the establishment of them would have deprived her of the chief advantages of her naval superiority.

29. INFERNAL MACHINE.—An attempt made in Paris on the life of the first consul, by placing a combustible machine in a cart, intercepting his way to the opera; it exploded after he had passed, but did considerable damage, and destroyed several lives. Several royalists and jacobins were apprehended by the activity of Fouché, on suspicion of being contrivers of the infernal machine, and special tribunals created, with despotic powers, for the trial of the disaffected.

31. This short parliamentary session and the century closed by the king. Before his majesty withdrew, he ordered the chancellor to read a proclamation declaring that the individuals who composed the expiring parliament should be the members

on the part of Britain of the parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and that this imperial parliament should assemble January 22nd, 1801.

31. CALENDAR.—Owing to the act for the correction of the calendar in 1752, this year was not a leap-year, as it otherwise would have been, and from the first day of March there was a difference of twelve days between the new and old styles, instead of eleven as formerly. By this alteration old Lady-day will be on April 5th, and so continue for a century.

IMPORT OF CORN.—The following is the quantity of corn imported into Britain, between September 26th, 1799, to September 27th, 1800:—

Wheat and flour . . .	1,261,932 qrs.
Barley . . . . .	67,988
Oats . . . . .	479,320
Rice . . . . .	300,693 cwt.

The average price in the month of December of wheat per bushel was 16s. 4d.; barley 7s. 6d.; oats 5s. 2d.

BENTHAM'S PROJECT.—Jeremy Bentham, esq., proposed to the lords of the Treasury (*Annual Register*, xlii. 396) to take charge of the convicts now confined in the hulks; to erect a building for their detention; feed, clothe, educate and instruct them in useful trades: all this he undertook to accomplish at a reduction in the present expense to the amount of twenty-five per cent. In the centre of his establishment he proposed to have a point of view from which a superintendent might see every convict, without being himself visible. He also proposed a subsidiary establishment, to which every convict might resort for employment in the trade in which he had been instructed, after the term of his punishment had expired.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—George Stevens, A.S.S., commentator on Shakspeare, &c. Joseph Warton, D.D. F.R.S., 78; he was brother of Thomas Warton, who died in 1790, and was the editor of an edition of Pope's works in nine vols. 8vo. William Fuller, 95, the banker of Lombard-street, worth 400,000*l.*, and who originally kept an academy in Founder's-court, Lothbury. Hon. Daines Barrington, A.S.S., 73, lawyer, antiquary, and naturalist. Mallet du Pan, 52, a French emigrant who carried on, till his death, a London journal, the "*Mercure Britannique*." By shooting himself with a pistol, in consequence, as alleged, of losses at play, Sir Godfrey Webster, of Battle abbey, Sussex. At Englefield-green, Mrs. Mary Robinson, the author of "*Perdita*," 42, a lady of considerable literary abilities and personal beauty, that had attracted the notice of the Prince of Wales. Bryan Edwards, M.P., 57, West

India merchant, and author of a "History of the British Colonies, in the West Indies." Sir Benjamin Hammet, M.P., alderman of London; a gentleman who owed his elevation to industry and perseverance, having been originally a porter on Fish-street-hill. Hugh Blair, D.D., 83, professor of rhetoric and belles lettres in the university of Edinburgh, and author of many popular works on subjects of piety, criticism and morals. Sir George Staunton, bart., secretary to earl Macartney in his embassy to China, and of which he published an account in two vols. 4to. William Cowper, the well-known poet, 69; celebrated not less for his verses and letters than sombre mental delusions.

A.D. 1801. PROSPECTS OF THE YEAR.—At the commencement of the year every continental port was closed against the British; but the sudden death of the emperor Paul, and the victory of Copenhagen, dissolved the northern confederacy. After concluding peace with Austria the attention of the French was drawn to vast preparations for a pretended invasion of England; they answered the purpose of a real descent by alarming the kingdom and wasting the national resources in defensive preparations. In Egypt France suffered a great reverse by the decisive victory of Alexandria; after a pertinacious resistance they were compelled to capitulate to the British and evacuate the country. Meanwhile negotiations for peace were secretly carrying on between the consular and English government, which ended in the settlement of the preliminaries to a definitive treaty. The chief domestic events were,—the first meeting of the Imperial Parliament, the resignation of Mr. Pitt, and the formation of the Addington ministry, a return of the king's indisposition, and the mutiny of the fleet in Bantry Bay. The high price of bread continued till after the harvest, occasioning severe distress among the labouring classes, and much popular discontent.

Jan. 1. Being the first day of the century, as well as of the union with Ireland, it was ushered in by the ringing of bells and the firing of the Tower guns.

3. A royal proclamation declaring that in future the regal title appertaining to the imperial crown of Britain and Ireland shall be, in Latin, *Georgius Tertius, Dei gratia, Britanniarum Rex, Fidei Defensor*: English,—"George III., by the grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith." Thus the absurd titular assumption of "King of France," was omitted. In honour of the union many promotions were made, and new titles conferred on the nobility of Ireland; a considerable number

of whom either received advancement of rank in their own order, or were created peers of the United Kingdom. A new great seal was presented to the lord chancellor, and the members of the council took the oaths as privy councillors of the United Kingdom.

14. An order of council laying an embargo on all Russian, Danish, and Swedish vessels.

15. East India Company grant a pension of 5000*l.*, to commence from 1798, for twenty years, to the marquis Wellesley. The marquis, with the concurrence of the company, established a university at Calcutta upon a liberal and extensive scale.

22. IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT met for the first time. It was opened by commission, and Mr. Addington was unanimously re-chosen speaker.

26. Tailors' wages advanced by the city magistrates from 25*s.* to 27*s.* a week.

31. The sale of fine wheaten bread prohibited from this day, and brown bread substituted.

The situation of the French prisoners in England very deplorable, the first consul having refused to defray the expense of their clothing.

Thomas Jefferson, after a warm contest, elected president of the United States, and Mr. Burr, vice-president.

Feb. 2. The king opened parliament. Earl Fitzwilliam moved an amendment to the address, which was supported by lords Darnley, Suffolk, Carnarvon, Moira, Holland, and Fife; opposed by lords Romney, Grenville, Mulgrave, and Spencer. It was negatived by 73 to 17 peers. A similar amendment was moved by Mr. Grey in the commons, and negatived by 245 to 63 voices.

9. TREATY OF LUNEVILLE concluded between Austria and France. The whole of the left bank of the Rhine was confirmed to France from Switzerland to Holland. The independence of the Helvetic, Batavian, Cisalpine and Ligurian republics was conceded by the emperor, who was left in possession of his Venetian acquisitions; the Adige being made their boundary. The duke of Tuscany was indemnified in Germany for the loss of his duchy.

10. Mr. Addington resigned the speakership, his majesty having signified his intention of appointing him to an office with which it was incompatible. On the same day lord Grenville informed the upper house, that the ministers being unable to carry a measure they deemed essential to the tranquillity and prosperity of the empire, they had tendered their resignation, which had been accepted.

12. The earl of Pomfret appeared in court to enter into recognizances to keep the peace towards his wife.



Two reports have been made by Mr. Dodd, on the progress of his undertaking to cut a tunnel under the Thames, from Gravesend to Tilbury, for passengers and carriages. The committee examined the shaft, and found that a steam-engine would be requisite to keep out the water flowing in from the lateral springs.

14. A fire in a factory at Manchester, by which forty persons perished.

16. A return of the king's malady was announced under the name of a fever, which did not entirely leave him till March 12th. The last question discussed in the cabinet, previous to the king's indisposition, was that of the extension of political privileges to the catholics of Ireland, which Mr. Pitt had given them reason to expect as a result of the union.

RESIGNATION OF MR. PITT.—On the same day that the king's indisposition was publicly announced, Mr. Pitt took occasion in the house of commons to state the grounds on which he and some of his colleagues had retired from the ministry. This was stated to be their inability to bring forward a measure which they deemed essential to give complete effect to the union with Ireland. Such a measure Mr. Pitt stated if he had "remained in the government he must have proposed." (*Annual Register*, xliii. 129.) Among the difficulties attending the concession of political rights to the Irish catholics, Mr. Pitt did not probably foresee that of obtaining the consent of the king, who conceived it to be contrary to the obligation of his coronation oath. The objection was insuperable and long remained so; and placed the minister in the painful position of being unable to redeem the obligation he had contracted with a numerous body of subjects. This was the sole reason assigned for his resignation, and was perhaps sufficient, but other reasons may have influenced this determination. Mr. Pitt's popularity had declined. All our continental allies had deserted us, and some of them had formed a menacing league hostile to our maritime claims. The expeditions to Egypt and Copenhagen had not yet achieved their brilliant triumphs. Popular discontents were aggravated by a two years' scarcity, and war taxes, though the facility with which an enormous loan was raised in the current year, shows no great pressure of financial difficulties. Peace, however, had become desirable from the hopeless prospects of the war, and the first step to an amicable negotiation was the retirement of men whose minds were embittered by disappointment, and who had assumed a tone of decided hostility to the consular government. Mr. Pitt had been premier more than seventeen years. He was ac-

companied in his resignation by earl Spencer, lord Grenville, Mr. Dundas, and Mr. Windham, all members of the cabinet, and other changes took place afterwards.

18. The completion of the ministerial arrangements being delayed by the king's illness, Mr. Pitt continued chancellor of the exchequer, and brought forward the budget. The sum stated as the amount of necessary supplies was upwards of 35,000,000*l.*, to defray which, besides new taxes, a loan of 25,000,000*l.* was proposed.

Mr. Corry, the chancellor of the exchequer for Ireland, stated the debt of that country to amount to 36,000,000*l.*; more than thirty of which had been contracted since the commencement of the war.

Mar. 2. The state-prisoners who had long been confined in the Tower, Coldbath fields, Shrewsbury, and other county gaols, were brought to the duke of Portland's office, and most of them liberated on their own recognizances. Col. Despard, Galloway, Lemaitre, and Hodgson, refusing to give bail, were committed to Tothill-fields; they insisted upon being discharged unconditionally, or brought to trial.

3. Spain declared war against Portugal, on the ground of her connexion with England, and refusal to ratify a treaty concluded with France in 1799.

12. Lord Castlereagh introduced a bill for continuing martial law, on account of the insurrectionary state of Ireland. It was supported by all the Irish members, Sir Laurence Parsons alone excepted. Mr. Pitt paid many compliments to the talents of lord Castlereagh and his extensive knowledge of the true interests of the British empire.—*Annual Register*, xlii. 157. The bill became law.

The king's illness was distressing to the royal family, particularly as none of the regular medicines administered could induce repose. In this emergency, when professional skill was baffled, the casual observation of Mr. Addington, afterwards lord Sidmouth, upon the virtue of a pillow of hops, was acted upon, and had the effect of relieving the sufferer from his malady.

17. Henry Dundas, president of the board of control, received from the East India Company a pension of 2000*l.* a year, to be continued to him or his assigns during the continuance of the exclusive trade of the company.

ADDINGTON MINISTRY.—The new premier received his appointments on the 17th inst., but the administration was not completed till July 30th, when the duke of Portland was declared lord-president. The following was the ministerial list:—

Mr. Addington, *Premier.*

Duke of Portland, *Lord-President.*

Lords Hawkesbury, Pelham, and Hobart, *Secretaries of State*.

Earl of Westmoreland, *Lord Privy-Seal*.

Earl St. Vincent, *First Lord of the Admiralty*.

Lord Eldon, *Lord Chancellor*.

Earl of Hardwick, *Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland*.

Lord Auckland, *Postmaster-General*.

Charles Yorke, *Secretary at War*.

Sir Edward Law, *Attorney-General*.

Spencer Percival, *Solicitor-General*.

Dudley Ryder, *Treasurer of the Navy*.

Thomas Steele and Lord Glenbervie, *Paymasters of the Army*.

The new ministry seem to have been formed with the two-fold object of putting an end to the war, and evading the agitation of the catholic question. Mr. Addington had given general satisfaction as speaker of the house of commons; he had acquired the king's personal favour by his decorous manner and respectable character, but he had no political reputation, neither had any of his colleagues. They were obviously brought forward to do what their predecessors were unable or unwilling to accomplish, and when their task was done they were dismissed.

19. Owing to the prosperity of the Bank of England, the proprietors resolved that in addition to the annual dividend of 7½ per cent., a bonus of 5½ in navy 5 per cents. shall be paid on each 100½ stock.

21. A convention concluded between France and Spain, by which the latter guaranteed the renunciation of the duchy of Parma by the reigning duke to the French Republic, in lieu of which the duchy of Tuscany was assigned to the son of the duke of Parma, with the title of King of Etruria. Spain also ceded the colony of Louisiana to France and the isle of Elba.

BATTLE OF ALEXANDRIA.—A large armament having been fitted out for the recovery of Egypt, under the command of sir Ralph Abercrombie, it effected a disembarkation on the 8th inst., with great spirit, at Aboukir. Advancing against the French, posted at some distance from Alexandria, a severe though indecisive action ensued on the 13th. On the 20th general Menou arrived, and concentrating the whole disposable force of the French, determined next day to attack the British. The force on each side was about 12,000. The English occupied a line about a mile in extent, nearly four miles from Alexandria, having a sandy plain in their front, the sea on their right, and the lake of Aboukir on their left. The battle began before day-light with a sham attack on the English left, which was succeeded by a real one on the right; after a long and

desperate engagement the assailants were completely defeated, and their famous corps of *Invincibles* almost annihilated. The loss of the French in killed, wounded and prisoners, was upwards of 3000; that of the British 1400. Among the latter were the gallant sir Ralph Abercrombie, who terminated a long career of brilliant services. General Hutchinson, a brave and able officer, succeeded to the command, and followed up the victory of his predecessor so effectually, that early in autumn the French army capitulated, upon condition of being conveyed with their arms, artillery, and effects to their own country. A British force from India by the way of the Red Sea arrived, under Sir David Baird, just after the conclusion of the treaty, which terminated the grand project of the French of making Egypt an entrepôt for the conquest of Hindostan.

25. Paul emperor of Russia assassinated in the 46th year of his age, and the fifth of his reign. He was succeeded by his son Alexander, whose first acts were to liberate the English from confinement, and open negotiations by which the armed neutrality was dissolved. Paul had shown signs of insanity, and this was the pretext for his destruction; but, in more civilized countries, such an unfortunate malady meets with different treatment. This extraordinary act seems to have been thought both necessary and laudable in Russia, for Alexander afterwards admitted as guests at his table the murderers of his father.

30. Sir Thomas Duckworth and general Trigge captured the Danish island of St. Thomas, and the Swedish island of Bartholomew in the West Indies.

April 2. ATTACK ON COPENHAGEN.—A powerful armament, consisting of 18 ships of the line, with a number of frigates and bomb-vessels, sailed for the Baltic, March 12th, under the command of admiral Parker, and vice-admiral Nelson. On the 30th the fleet passed the Sound, with no resistance from the Swedish, and little from the Danish side of the strait. On approaching the harbour of Copenhagen the fleet of Denmark was descried flanked and supported by powerful batteries on land and floating. An attack on this formidable crescent was entrusted, at his own request, to Nelson with twelve ships of the line, and all the smaller craft. It began at ten o'clock in the morning, and was kept up on both sides with the greatest courage for four hours, when both fleets exhibited a very shattered appearance. Seventeen sail of the enemy had been burnt, sunk, or taken; while three of the largest of the English ships, owing to the intricacies of the navigation, had grounded within reach of the enemies' land batteries.



At this juncture Nelson proposed a truce, to which the prince of Denmark promptly acceded. The loss of the English in killed and wounded was 942; that of the Danes 1800. Nelson described the battle of Copenhagen as the most dreadful he had ever witnessed.

3. The Prussian troops entered the electorate, and compelled the regency of Hanover to disband their troops. Hamburg was seized by the prince of Hesse with 15,000 Danish troops.

4. A female taken into custody named Robinson, who, under the pretence of being a rich heiress, had swindled tradesmen to the amount of 20,000*l*.

14. On the report of a secret committee, bills for further suspending the Habeas Corpus Act, and preventing seditious meetings, were passed with the usual majority. Bills of indemnity were also passed for protecting persons in authority from the consequences of their *zeal and activity* since 1793; and in Ireland, since 1799.

26. A riot in Wych-street, owing to the discovery of some human bodies, intended for anatomical purposes.

May 4. Earl Temple moved for a new writ for Old Sarum to return a member in lieu of the Rev. J. H. Tooke, who being in priest's orders, was ineligible to a seat in the house of commons. This was not agreed to, but a bill was brought in by Mr. Addington to declare persons in holy orders in *future* disqualified to sit, which became law. The exclusion of clerical representatives in the lower house cannot be esteemed unfortunate, if lord Clarendon's remark be true, that "Clergymen understand the least, and take the worst measure of human affairs, of all mankind that can read and write."

14. The income of the London corporation amounts to 92,062*l*.; its expenditure, to 87,828*l*.

18. First stone of the Stock-exchange, in Capel-court, laid by Mr. Hammond.

June 1. Embargo taken off Russian, Swedish, and Danish vessels in the British ports.

3. The foundation laid for the building of the bank of Scotland, in Bank-street, Edinburgh.

6. The Spaniards under the Prince of Peace having got possession of all the strong places in Portugal, the latter agreed to a treaty, stipulating to shut her ports against the English.

13. Thomas Spence, a poor bookseller, was sentenced by lord Kenyon to pay a fine of 50*l*., and be imprisoned a twelvemonth, for publishing a seditious libel, called "Spence's Restorer of Society;" in which he recommends the abolition of private property in land, and the vesting it in pa-

rishes, for the good of the public at large.

17. Lord St. Helens signed a convention with Russia at Petersburg, by which is conceded the right of search to ships of war; and to which Sweden and Denmark acceded.

19. The duke of York laid the first stone of the Military-asylum, Chelsea.

30. Two of the York hussars shot on Bincombe Down, pursuant to sentence of a court-martial, for an attempt to escape to France.

July 1. STEAM BOAT.—"An experiment," says the *Annual Register*, "took place on the river Thames, for the purpose of working a barge, or any other heavy craft, against tide, by means of a steam-engine on a very simple construction. The moment the engine was set to work, the barge was brought about, answering her helm quickly; and she made way against a strong current, at the rate of *two miles and a half an hour*."

2. Parliament prorogued by commission.

10. Paddington canal opened.

13. Sir James Saumarez burns near Cadiz two Spanish ships of 112 guns each, and captures one of 74 guns. Some days before, the admiral lost an English 74, by her grounding under an enemy's battery near Algeziras.

22. Grand review, by the duke of York, of the London Volunteers, amounting to 4734, in Hyde-park.

14. The queen gave a splendid rural fête in Frogmore-gardens. Six hundred of the nobility were invited by tickets; none others were admitted. Mrs. Mills personated a gipsy, delivering her poetical auguries of the future fortunes of the several members of the royal family. Ducrow exhibited his feats of strength and dexterity, balancing on his chin three coach-wheels; also a ladder, to which was affixed two chairs with two children on them. A ball at the princess Elizabeth's thatched barn concluded the entertainments.

15. An impostor named Smith, without being in orders, or in any way connected with the clerical profession, officiated for the curate of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, solemnizing marriages (which were void), baptisms, &c. He officiated for a month, and would have continued had he not been apprehended on a charge of forgery, for which he was tried, convicted, and sentenced to death.

24. Colonel Clinton takes Madeira.

Aug. 4. Lord Nelson bombarded Boulogne, and sunk several gun-boats. This was only an experimental attempt to discover the position and defences of the enemy; and on the 15th and 16th it was renewed in earnest. The most desperate

courage was displayed to board and cut out the French vessels, but they were so well prepared, that only a lugger was brought off, and a severe loss was inflicted on the assailants, who showed more daring than judgment.

21. Sale by auction of Mr. Beckford's splendid furniture at Fonthill-abbey. Not a stool, a tripod, or any other article, fetched so little as a guinea. It was a sign of the times, to see plain Wiltshire farmers bidding for some of the finery in this gorgeous accumulation of an inordinate fortune and effeminate taste.

Sept. 9. Died, at Hackney, much regretted, in his 46th year, the Rev. GILBERT WAKEFIELD, late a prisoner in Dorchester gaol (*ante* 614). Mr. Wakefield had distinguished himself in Biblical and classical learning, and was a sincere lover of the truth, which he pursued with little regard to consequences, in religion, criticism, and politics. A subscription of 5000*l.* was raised for him during his long imprisonment; and he had begun a course of lectures on Virgil in London, when he was carried off by a typhus fever.

Oct. 1. Preliminaries of peace between Great Britain and France were signed at lord Hawkesbury's office, in Downing-street, by his lordship, and M. Otto, on the part of the French government. Weary of a war, now without an object, intelligence of this event was joyfully received by the people of both countries. A few days after, France concluded a peace with Russia, the Porte, and Portugal.

The emperor Alexander crowned at Moscow. Thirty thousand persons were entertained at dinner, the recruiting service for the year discontinued, fines remitted, and debtors to the crown liberated from prison.

10. General Lauriston, aid-de-camp to the first consul, having arrived with the ratification of the preliminaries, the populace took the horses from his carriage, and drew it to Downing-street. At night there was an illumination, which was renewed the next evening.

29. PARLIAMENT opened by the king, who announced the signature of preliminaries, and congratulated them on our naval and military triumphs. In both houses the addresses passed unanimously. Mr. Sheridan said it was a peace of which every one was glad, but no one proud.

Nov. 3. DEBATE ON THE PRELIMINARIES. —The subject of the peace was formally debated in both houses; and in the upper house a decided opposition to its terms was expressed by lords Spencer, Fitzwilliam, Caernarvon, Buckingham, Grenville, and the bishop of St. Asaph. It was de-

fended by Moira, Bedford, St. Vincent, Nelson, Westmorland, Hobart, Pelham, and the bishop of London. Nelson said that neither Malta nor Minorca was important as a naval station. On a division the minister's address was carried by 114 to 10. In the commons the preliminaries were defended by Fox, Pitt, and Hawkesbury; and assailed by Windham, Thomas Grenville, and lord Temple. The address carried without a division.

10. Mr. Barclay, of Ury, in Scotland, for a bet of 5000*l.* engaged to walk 90 miles in 21½ successive hours. He began his task at 12 o'clock at night, on the road between York and Hull, and completed it one hour, seven minutes, and fifteen seconds within the time.

Dec. 14. A large armament of 23 ships of the line and 25,000 men sailed from Brest, for the purpose of recovering the islands of St. Domingo and Guadaloupe; permission for this purpose having been obtained from the English government.

The prize-ox at Smithfield weighed near 300 stone, at 8 lb. to the stone, and was sold for 160*l.*

24. Buonaparte declined the offer of the inhabitants of Paris, to have a statue erected to his honour in his lifetime.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—John Caspar Lavater, the eminent Swiss physiognomist, 60; an ingenious but enthusiastic writer. William Heberden, M.D., 90; eminent physician and medical writer. Robert Orme, 73; a servant of the East India Company, and author of a "History of Hindostan." Colonel Cyrus Trapaud, 87; the oldest general in the service. William Drake, M.A., F.A.S., 80; an eminent scholar and antiquary. John Chapman, 95, alderman, and six times mayor of Bath. Sir Grey Cooper, 76; a pensioner, and author of some pamphlets in favour of the whigs. James Hurdis, B.A., 38; author of a poem, and a critical disquisition on *tanninim*, mentioned in the Scriptures. At Hadleigh, Mrs. Chapone, 75; poetess, and author of valuable works on education.

A.D. 1802. PROSPECTS OF THE YEAR.—Public events were lessened in number and interest by the cessation of hostilities; but though the preliminaries of peace were settled, there was a long delay in the conclusion of a definitive treaty. In the interval France was constantly giving new cause of suspicion and offence by the conclusion of secret treaties with other powers, by annexations of territory, and the assumption of authority in adjoining states. These excited uneasiness and heart-burnings, which were aggravated by the virulence of political writers in London and Paris. France had virtually ceased to be republican. By



the promulgation of a new constitution, almost absolute power had become vested in the first consul. In England the chief domestic occurrences were the dissolution of the parliament, and the discovery of a treasonable conspiracy to overturn the government, at the head of which was a military officer, smarting under a sense of real or fancied injuries. As this plot was unconnected with any political party, and its means strangely disproportioned to its purposes, it excited no alarm, and hardly any feeling save that of commiseration for its misguided partisans. The harvests of this and the preceding year were abundant, and made up for the deficiency of 1800 and 1801.

Jan. 8. Trial of the mutineers of the Bantry Bay squadron began at Portsmouth. The mutiny arose from the squadron being ordered to the West Indies. Fourteen of the ringleaders were found guilty, and executed.

25. The constitution of the Cisalpine republic having been re-modelled, Buonaparte was elected its president; by which it virtually became annexed to France. Further annexations became known before the peace of Amiens.

28. GOVERNOR WALL.—This person, formerly lieutenant-governor of the island of Goree, was executed at the Old Bailey, for the murder of Benjamin Armstrong, a serjeant in the African corps, by causing 800 lashes, with a rope, to be inflicted by black slaves, with such cruelty as to cause his death. The populace gave three successive shouts of exultation when this unhappy criminal was launched into eternity. He was a native of Dublin, and his trial excited intense interest from his rank, his age, and from twenty years having elapsed since the commission of the offence. Mr. Wall had long lived in obscurity; and the trial at last took place at his own solicitation, either from a wish to disburthen his mind of the atrocious charge, the probability of the death of the witnesses against him, or hope of the royal clemency. But the last was incompatible with the severe justice about the same time being executed on the mutineers of Bantry Bay.

Feb. 8. A Margate-hoy lost on the sands near Reculver, and twenty-three persons drowned.

10. Charles Abbott, late Irish secretary, chosen speaker of the house of commons, in place of sir John Mitford, now baron Redesdale, appointed lord-chancellor of Ireland.

12. A king's messenger, on his way to lord Cornwallis, was attacked by two wolves near Boulogne, who tore off the lips of the horses.

15. The petition of 200 of the principal booksellers of London presented to parliament against the high duty on paper.

24. A puffing advertisement appeared, offering to dispose of a *Queen Anne's farthing*, for which 700 guineas had been offered and refused; alleging that it was one of the only *two* coined in that queen's reign. This, however, was a mistake, if not an artifice to enhance the price. Mr. Leake, in his "*History of English Money*," says that in queen Anne's reign "there were some few copper *halfpence and farthings* coined," and gives a description of them, pp. 405-6, Lond. edit., 1745. From this it appears halfpence are as rare as farthings, and neither are so much so, as to bear any extraordinary price.

Two attempts recently made by an incendiary to set fire to the town of Boston in New England.

Mar. 8. The lord-chancellor determined that Bibles printed by the king's printer in Scotland could not be sold in England, but might be exported.

The sons of a noble earl (*Ann. Reg.*, xlv. 376), one of whom was breeding to be a *bricklayer*, and the other a *tanner*, have been lately seduced from these employments by their sister, to the great mortification of their father, who is disappointed in his favourite scheme.

PIC NIC SUPPER.—This season, says the *Annual Register*, has been marked by a new species of entertainment, common to the fashionable world, called a *Pic Nic* supper. It consists of a variety of dishes. The subscribers to the entertainment have a bill of fare presented to them, with a number against each dish. The lot which he draws obliges him to furnish the dish marked against it, which he either takes with him in his carriage, or sends by a servant. The proper variety is preserved by the taste of the *maitre d'hotel* who forms the bill of fare.

24. Edward duke of Kent appointed governor of Gibraltar, in the room of the late general O'Hara.

27. PEACE OF AMIENS.—Nearly six months had elapsed since the agreement to the preliminaries of peace; during which time the country had been kept in a state of anxious suspense, and no diminution could be made in the war establishments. The leading feature of the definitive treaty was, that France retained all her conquests, while the acquisitions of England during the war were all given up, except the islands of Trinidad and Ceylon. The territories of the Porte were maintained in their integrity; those of Portugal placed in the same situation as before the war; the republic of the Seven Islands acknowledged; Malta and its dependencies were restored to the knights of St. John of Jerusalem, under certain restrictions. The French agreed to evacuate Naples and the Roman states; and the British, Porto Fer-

rajo, and all the ports possessed by them in the Mediterranean and the Adriatic. Such were the leading stipulations of this temporary adjustment.

29. **CIVIL-LIST DEBTS.**—It appeared from the report of a parliamentary committee that a debt of no less than 900,000*l.* had been contracted since the passing of Mr. Burke's reform bill; and that during the whole period of Mr. Pitt's ministry the provisions of that act had been totally disregarded. A sum, however, was voted for making good the deficiency. Two days after, Mr. Manners Sutton, solicitor to the prince of Wales, made a motion concerning the claim of his royal highness, during his minority, to the revenue of the duchy of Cornwall, amounting to 900,000*l.* The chancellor of the exchequer opposed the motion. He objected that the house was not competent to decide on the legality of the claim; but if that was allowed, the expense of the education and maintenance of the prince ought to be deducted. Mr. Fox held that the prince had a right to be maintained and educated by his father, and that the same account ought to be rendered of the revenues of Cornwall as had been done of those of the bishop of Osnaburg to the duke of York. After much discussion by the law-officers, the claim was got rid of, by moving the order of the day, which was carried by 160 to 103.

*Apr.* 2. Died, at Bath, lord KENYON, chief justice of the court of King's-bench, over which he had presided since the death of Mansfield, in 1788. His lordship was inferior to his predecessor in eloquence, but respectable for integrity and patience in his judicial capacity. He always manifested a stern dislike to the low practices of pettifoggers, to the pursuits of gamblers, and to the sexual irregularities of the higher orders, as evinced in cases of seduction and adultery.

5. In bringing forward the budget, Mr. Addington announced the abandonment of the income-tax. The national debt was stated to amount to 500 millions, being an increase of 400 millions during the present reign.

9. Bank Restriction Act continued.

12. A motion by sir Francis Burdett, to inquire into the conduct of the late minister, rejected by 207 to 39.

18. **FRENCH CONCORDAT.**—The principal articles of this agreement with the pope were the establishment of the free exercise of the Roman-catholic religion; a new division of the French dioceses; the bishops to be nominated by the first consul, and to take an oath of fidelity to the republic; the bishops to appoint the curés, but under confirmation by the government; catholics permitted to make endowments to churches. To commemorate the settlement of the

Gallican church, the first consul went in grand procession, drawn by eight horses, to the cathedral of Notre Dame.

19. Sir Edward Law, created lord Ellenborough, appointed lord-chief-justice of the King's-bench.

27. An amnesty, with the exception of those who had borne arms against France, in favour of the emigrants. They were not to interfere with the arrangements of property made previous to the amnesty; but they were restored to such remains of property as still remained in the hands of government.

29. Peace proclaimed in the metropolis. At night a brilliant illumination.

*May* 3. St. Domingo and its chiefs, Toussaint, Christophe, and Dessalines, submitted to the French.

5. Cleopatra's coffin, head of the Theban ram, and other Egyptian curiosities sent home by lord Elgin, landed at Portsmouth.

6. Rev. George Markham, third son of the archbishop of York, obtained 7000*l.* damages against Mr. Fawcett for *crim. con.* Mr. Erskine was counsel for the plaintiff; Mr. Best, for the defendant. The criminal intercourse had existed five years before its discovery, when Mrs. Markham had become the mother of nine children. It was an aggravated case, from a long and confidential friendship having subsisted from infancy between the parties.

7. **THANKS TO MR. PITT.**—Mr. Nicholls, seconded by Mr. Jones, moved an address to the king, thanking him for removing Mr. Pitt from his councils: upon which lord Belgrave, seconded by Mr. Thornton, moved an amendment to the effect that it was to the energy of the king's councils the country was indebted for the protection of the constitution from foreign and domestic foes. On a division, the amendment was carried by 222 against 52. Sir Robert Peel next moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Pitt, which was carried by 211 to 52. These motions had the fate which might be expected, and were ill-timed. Parliament could not pass a vote of censure on the late minister, whom they had with large majorities supported, without passing a vote of censure on themselves.

8. Buonaparte chosen first consul for life, with liberty to choose his successor. Registers were opened in every commune throughout France on the same day, and the suffrages of the nation taken; when there appeared the vast majority of 3,577,259 citizens for, and only 9074 against, these innovations (*Belsk. Hist.*, xii. 413). In the tribunate, Carnot was the only dissentient. On these great honours being conferred upon him, Buonaparte remarking on the inconstancy of fortune, said (*Ann. Reg.*, xlv, 205), "How many are



those on whom she has lavished her favours that have lived a few years too long."

13. Grand debate on the peace in both houses of parliament, but without any novelty of argument. No one affected to be proud of the treaty of Amiens, but such was the general impression of the necessity of peace to the country, and the impossibility of obtaining better terms by a protracted contest, that lord Grenville's motion in the lords was negatived by 122 to 16. In the commons a similar motion by Mr. Windham, impugning the terms of it, was negatived by the still greater majority of 276 to 20.

17. Slavery re-established in the colonies by the French legislature.

20. A destructive fire in Woolwich Warren, supposed to be the work of an incendiary.

24. A bill for the abolition of bull-baiting lost in the house of commons by 64 to 51. It was opposed by Mr. Windham, who contended that horse-racing and hunting were more cruel and immoral than bull-baiting or prize-fighting.

27. Mr. Canning's motion against the importation of fresh negroes into Trinidad negatived.

29. Mr. Pitt's birth-day commemorated at Merchant Tailors'-hall by a meeting of 900 noblemen and gentlemen; earl Spencer in the chair, who gave as a toast,—*"The pilot who weathered the storm;"* forgetting, as Mr. Belsham observes, that the "storm was not weathered till the pilot was thrown overboard."

June 3. Parliament voted 10,000*l.* to Dr. Jenner for the introduction of the vaccine inoculation; and 1200*l.* to Mr. Greathead, a ship-carpenter, of South Shields, for the contrivance of the life-boat.

26. First stone of the London Docks laid by the chancellor of the exchequer.

28. Parliament prorogued by the king, and next day dissolved by proclamation.

July 2. Died at his house in Stanhope-street, colonel BARRE, who began his parliamentary career contemporaneously with his countryman, Mr. Edmund Burke, and acquired celebrity by his energetic opposition to the American war. He had long held the sinecure, worth 3000*l.* a-year, of clerk of the pells, which Mr. Addington, at his death, gave to his son, then a youth at school (*Ann. Reg.* 430). Barré had been blind twenty years, but continued a cheerful companion to the last.

4. The king of Sardinia abdicated his throne in favour of his brother. Buonaparte soon after, under the pretext that the people had a right to choose their own government, annexed Piedmont to France.

15. The election for Westminster terminated in favour of lord Gardner and

Mr. Fox—Mr. Graham, an auctioneer, and the popular candidate, declining the further prosecution of the contest. Immediately the result was declared, the mob began the demolition of the hustings, appropriating to themselves, agreeably to immemorial custom, whatever parts of the structure they could carry off.

MONARCHY IN FRANCE.—The French government was making rapid strides to monarchy. By a decree of the 12th, a kind of nobility was established, under the name of the legion of honour, each member receiving a salary proportioned to his rank. Soon after a *senatus consultum* was published, organising a new constitution, which was accepted at a single sitting by the legislative body. It empowered the first consul to name his colleagues, to choose his successor, and appoint forty members of the senate, the whole number of which was 120, and prescribe the only subjects on which they should deliberate.

29. Mr. Byng and sir Francis Burdett, after a severe contest, elected members for Middlesex, in opposition to Mr. Mainwaring.

Aug. 25. Buonaparte prohibited the circulation of English newspapers: immediately the order was issued the police visited the coffee-houses and reading-rooms, seizing the English journals. A war of abuse had been carried on for some time between the English press and the *Moniteur*, the official organ of the consular government.

28. Toussaint, the late chief of St. Domingo, imprisoned at Paris under the pretext of conspiring against the French government.

30. The Preston jubilee celebrated with great pomp and festivity; it is held every twenty-one years, and this is the eighteenth since the incorporation of the guild under Edward III.

Sept. 3. Mr. Fox received with great respect by Buonaparte at the Tuileries.

The number of English at Paris estimated at 12,000.

21. DESCENT BY A PARACHUTE.—M. Garnerin, who had lately ascended in a balloon from Ranelagh, Vauxhall, and Lord's cricket-ground, undertook this day to descend in a parachute. It was made of canvas in the form of an umbrella, having at the top a large flexible hoop of about eight feet diameter. Beneath this was a basket, or tube of wicker-work, in which the aeronaut was seated. The ascent was made from near North Audley-street; and at the height of 4000 feet Garnerin cut the cord, and the parachute separated from the balloon. He descended with great rapidity; and, from the oscillation, and almost horizontal position of the

parachute and basket, the adventurer appeared in the utmost danger. After a few moments of painful suspense to the spectators, he alighted, without serious injury, in a field near St. Pancras church.

28. At Sturbich fair, a false alarm of "fire!" was given at the theatre, which caused such a rush to escape, that four persons were trampled to death and thirty bruised.

Oct. 1. Buonaparte interfered as mediator in the subsisting differences between the smaller Swiss cantons.

2. A famous robber, named Schinderrannes, apprehended. He had long spread terror on both banks of the Rhine by his daring exploits; and was supposed to have formed himself on the model of the *Carle Moore* of Schiller. He robbed only the rich, especially Jews and the clergy, and gave part of his booty to the poor. He had a gang of 200 under him, by one of whom he was betrayed.

The king of Spain annexed to the royal domains all the property of the Knights of Malta in his dominions, and declared himself grand-master of the order in Spain. It was a new obstacle to the execution of the treaty of Amiens, and was supposed to be done at the suggestion of France.

13. A swindler, under the assumed name of the hon. colonel Hope, completely duped many people at Keswick, and contrived to marry the famed "Beauty of Buttermere." His real name was John Hatfield, a married man and uncertificated bankrupt.

21. The bishopric of Osnaburg, which only belonged alternately to the house of Brunswick, was, by a decree of the German diet, secularised, and annexed to Hanover, in exchange for some territories of the electorate.

Nov. 1. During the performance of *Pe-rouse* at the Preston theatre, when the hero fired at the Indian, the wadding entered the thigh of the latter (Mr. Bannerman), which caused mortification, of which he died.

6. After an interval of thirteen months since the signing of preliminaries of peace, general Andreossi arrived as ambassador from France.

An English newspaper called the *Argus* is now published at Paris, which is unceasingly occupied in abusing the government and people of this country. The editor is named Goldsmith, formerly proprietor of the *Albion* newspaper in London, and translator of the "Crimes of Cabinets."

Lord Seaforth has introduced into the West Indies the seeds of the palm that produces the fibres from which the cord-

age and cables, called in the East Indies gomootoo, are manufactured.

16. MEETING OF THE NEW PARLIAMENT. —The new members elected were unusually numerous—they amounted to 184, of whom 145 were English, 14 Scotch, and 25 Irish. The elections had been carried on in Liverpool, Nottingham, Norwich, Westminster, and in Middlesex, with considerable heat, and even violence. At Norwich Mr. Windham was thrown out, and Mr. Mainwaring for Middlesex; in Westminster, Mr. Fox, the "friend of the people," had a sharp contest with the popular candidate. Upon the whole the Whig party was strengthened; but there was no division on the address in either house of parliament, though the royal speech foreboded a renewal of the war: Mr. Abbot was unanimously rechosen speaker.

TREASONABLE CONSPIRACY. —Colonel Despard, who was lately discharged from Cold-Bath-Fields prison for seditious practices, was apprehended at the Oakley Arms, Oakley-street, Lambeth, with thirty-six of his confederates, principally consisting of the labouring classes—English, Irish, and Scotch, and among them three soldiers of the guards. After several previous examinations before the privy-council, the colonel and fourteen others were fully committed to take their trial for high treason before a special commission.

29. In the court of king's bench, Hamlyn, a tinman at Plymouth, was sentenced to three months' imprisonment, and to pay a fine of 100*l.*, for offering Mr. Addington a bribe of 2000*l.* to procure for him the place of land-surveyor.

Dec. 10. Lord Ellenborough ruled that no witness should be bound to answer any question which tends to degrade himself, or to show himself to be infamous." This doctrine was warmly oppugned by Mr. Erskine, but his lordship affirmed it to be the law of England.

29. A jobbing gardener, who for twenty years had lived in a cave or hermitage on the borders of Sydenham-common, near Dulwich, and acquired the appellation of the "Man of the Woods," was barbarously murdered by the gipsies of that neighbourhood.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—The Rev. Arthur O'Leary, 73, a popular catholic clergyman, and founder of St. Patrick's chapel, Soho. At Dublin, John Fitzgibbon, earl of Clare, lord chancellor of Ireland, and a statesman deeply engaged in the coercive policy of the Irish government. John Moore, M.D., 72, author of 'Zeluco,' and books of travels. Alexander Geddes, LL.D., 65, a learned Roman catholic, who, under the patronage of lord Petre, commenced a new



and literal translation of the Scriptures, which was not much encouraged either by the divines of his own or of the protestant faith. Welbore Ellis, F. R. S., lord Mendip, 89, one of the Portland party, and often referred to by Junius in not very respectful terms. At Lucknow, in the East Indies, general Claud Martin, who bequeathed a fortune of 475,000*l.* almost entirely to charitable uses. At Woburn, much respected, Francis duke of Bedford, 37; his grace sunk under a surgical operation for hernia; he was never married, and was succeeded in his title and estates by his next brother, lord John Russell. Joseph Strutt, 55, author of "Sports and Pastimes." At Paris, M. de Calonne, the celebrated finance-minister of Louis XVI.

PUBLIC STATUTES. XXXIII. TO XLIII. OF  
GEORGE III.

33 Geo. III., c. 1. To prevent the circulation of French assignats; also the export of arms.

Cap. 2. Export of naval stores restrained.

Cap. 13. Determines the commencement of acts of parliament by directing the clerk of parliament to endorse the date of the royal assent to every statute, which endorsement fixes the time of commencement, unless some other time is fixed in the act itself.

Cap. 27. Traitorous correspondence bill (*expired*).

Cap. 54. For the encouragement of friendly societies.

34 Geo. III., c. 23. Establishing a copyright in designs and prints of linens, cottons, calicoes, &c.

Cap. 83. Controverted elections in parliament, relating to the time of presenting and considering petitions.

35 Geo. III., c. 34. Idle persons may be sent by magistrates to the navy.

Cap. 101. Prevents the removal of poor persons till they become actually chargeable.

Cap. 124. Woolcombers allowed to follow their own, or any other trade, in any part of the kingdom, without being liable to removal from their new places of residence till actually chargeable.

36 Geo. III., c. 7. For better preservation of the king and government against treasonable and seditious practices.

Cap. 8. For the prevention of seditious meetings (*expired*).

Cap. 9. For preventing riotous obstructions to the free passage of grain, and the bringing of it to market.

Cap. 23. Allowing occasional relief to the poor in their *own houses*.

Cap. 60. Regulates vending and making of metal buttons.

37 Geo. III., c. 45. Restriction of payments in specie by the Bank of England. (*ante*, p. 602.)

Cap. 119. Negroes not to be chattels for the payment of debts in the British American colonies. Before this act negroes were liable to be taken in execution for debt.

Cap. 127. Shortens the time of notice for meeting of parliament; regulates meeting of, in case of demise of the crown.

38 Geo. III., c. 78. Restricting the printing and publishing of newspapers.

39 Geo. III., c. 79. For suppressing seditious societies and practices.

Cap. 110. Augmenting salaries of judges in Westminster-hall.

39 and 40 Geo. III., c. 67. UNION between Great Britain and Ireland. (p. 621 and *post*.)

Cap. 88. Regulates the disposition of the private property of the king, accruing from his privy-purse, and those small branches of the crown revenues not surrendered in lieu of the civil-list allowance.

Cap. 93. Regulates trials on high treason, and misprision thereof.

Cap. 98. Prohibits all trusts and directions in wills, whereby the profits of real or personal estate are settled to accumulate for a longer term than twenty-one years, or during the minority of any person living or *in ventre sa mère*, at the time of the death of the grantor or testator. This act originated in the eccentric will of Mr. Thellusson (p. 604), the validity of which became a subject of protracted litigation.

41 Geo. III., c. 15. For taking a census of the population of Great Britain.

Cap. 52. Declaring who is disqualified for sitting and voting in the house of commons of the united kingdom; and what offices in Ireland disqualify from being members of parliament.

Cap. 63. Persons in holy orders declared ineligible to sit in parliament. It arose out of the return of Horne Tooke (*ante*, p. 627), who, however, was suffered to retain his seat till the dissolution of parliament, in the following year.

Cap. 107. Secures the copyright of books to the authors or their assigns in the united kingdom. Ireland had no copyright act prior to this statute.

42 Geo. III., c. 1. Grants premiums on ships employed in the southern whale fishery.

Cap. 42. Repeals the income-tax.

Cap. 73. For preserving health and morals of persons employed in cotton-mills.

REVENUE, DEBT, TAXES.

The war of 1793 was entered into with

sanguine expectations that it would be of short duration. In a military sense France was far from formidable; her army in 1792 did not exceed the usual peace establishment of 130,000 men, and its strength was greatly impaired by the emigration of its principal officers, as well as by the general relaxation attendant on a continental peace of thirty years. All the chances of the contest were in favour of the allies; in the number and discipline of their armies, in extent of financial means, and the stability of their governments, they possessed a decided superiority; a single campaign seemed sufficient to humble the French, to march to Paris, and re-establish the monarchy. These anticipations proceeded upon the old common-place data of politicians, without contemplating the revolutionary resources of talent, energy, and enthusiasm — issues of assignat, levies en masse, and confiscations of property, about to be placed at the disposal of the new rulers of France.

During the first four years of the war no extraordinary fiscal expedient was resorted to; the deficiency in the taxes was supplied by annual loans, which rapidly increased from 11,000,000*l.* in 1794 to 32,500,000*l.* in 1797. In the latter year the war-taxes, chiefly from the increase in the assessed taxes, amounted only to 3,000,000*l.*; but the great loan of 1797, combined with other causes, depressed the 3 per cents. below 48, and rendered a new system of finance necessary to the support of public credit. Upon this emergency Mr. Pitt resolved, by a great increase of the war-taxes, to raise a large portion of the supplies within the year; the public, from the increase of riches, and the general prosperity, being well able to bear additional burdens. This plan was vigorously acted upon in 1798 by the imposition of the income-tax, which at once raised the war-taxes to 12,000,000*l.*; in 1799 to 17,000,000*l.*; in 1801 to 17,000,000*l.*; and in 1802 to 19,000,000*l.*—(*Lowe's Present State of England*, p. 22.) The increase of taxes, however, caused no relaxation in the system of borrowing; greater the means placed at the disposal of government, and greater the expenditure; till at length the war-loans amounted to upwards of forty millions.

The following statement from Dr. Hamilton (*Inquiry into the National Debt*, 3rd edit. pp. 157, 269) exhibits the sums raised by taxes and loans from the commencement of the war in 1793 to the peace of Amiens:—

Years.	By Taxes.	By Loans.
	£	£
1793	17,170,400	4,500,000

Years.	By Taxes.	By Loans.
	£	£
Car. for.	17,170,400	4,500,000
1794	17,308,811	11,000,000
1795	17,858,454	18,000,000
1796	18,737,760	25,500,000
1797	20,654,650	32,500,000
1798	30,202,915	17,000,000
1799	35,229,968	18,500,000
1800	33,896,464	20,500,000
1801	35,415,096	28,000,000
1802	37,240,213	25,000,000
£263,714,731		£200,500,000

The total sums raised by taxes and loans was 464,214,731*l.*; deducting from this sum the probable charge, had peace been preserved, of 18,000,000*l.* per annum, it shows the war-expenditure to the peace of Amiens to have amounted to 284,214,731*l.*, being an average yearly expenditure on account of hostilities of 28,421,473*l.*.

	Principal.	Interest.
	£	£
National Debt in 1793	254,306,435	10,868,975
Ditto at the end of 1802	629,467,529	27,043,625
Increase	375,161,094	16,174,650

Extraordinary as these financial exertions were, we shall find them greatly exceeded in the second period of the revolutionary war that began in 1803.

#### COMMERCE, SHIPPING, AGRICULTURE.

As no market of importance was closed against England by the breaking out of the war, British commerce continued steadily to increase after its commencement. In 1793 there was a mercantile revulsion and a great number of failures, but they were unconnected with the war, and arose from the speculations in corn by some great houses, and the general spirit of over-trading during the nine antecedent years of peace. After Holland was overrun by the French, and forced into the war against this country, the shipping interest was benefited by obtaining a part of the carrying trade of the United Provinces; but only to a limited extent, as the largest portion of this navigation was transferred to neutrals, Americans, Danes, Swedes, and Prussians. It was mainly a continental, not a naval or mercantile war; and, in consequence, the impulse previously given by numerous mechanical discoveries and improvements to commercial and manufacturing industry continued unabated to the peace of Amiens. In the subjoined statement it appears that the official value of the cargoes exported more than doubled from 1793 to 1802; and the amount of



tonnage employed in the export trade of Great Britain increased in nearly an equal ratio :—

Years.	Tonnage.	Value of Cargoes.
1793	1,281,447	£20,390,180
1794	1,557,099	26,748,083
1795	1,400,296	27,123,338
1796	1,563,105	30,518,913
1797	1,351,371	28,917,010
1798	1,508,666	33,591,777
1799	1,535,926	35,991,329
1800	1,924,042	43,152,019
1801	1,958,373	42,100,832
1802	1,895,116	46,120,962

AGRICULTURE would, in the ordinary course, have benefited by the prosperity of commerce, had not its natural tendency been partly counteracted. The first effect of the war was to withdraw from agriculture a portion of labour and capital, to produce a rise in the rate of interest, and to necessitate the abandonment of many projects of improvement, such as drainages, canals, and other undertakings dependent for success on a low rate of interest. The scarcity of capital was partly remedied by the Bank Restriction Act and increased issues of paper money; but another cause operated disadvantageously. This was the unfavourableness of the seasons. In the ten years, from 1793 to 1802 inclusive, there were only three good harvests; the rest unfavourable. In 1793 the season was favourable; in 1794-5, a partial deficiency in each year; in 1796-7-8, seasons less unfavourable; 1799-1800, bad seasons; in 1801-2, good crops.—(*Lowe's Present State of England*, p. 130.) As any rise in price, occasioned by a bad harvest, is not an equivalent for a deficiency in the crops, it is obvious that the seasons were against agricultural improvement.

The backwardness of agriculture and high price of wheat in 1795-6 originated, in 1797, a parliamentary inquiry into the waste-lands of the kingdom, and the passing of enclosure acts. In the Report of the Committee it is stated, that the first enclosure act, according to the modern system, was passed in 1710. (*Ann. Reg.* xxix. 411.) Only one other act passed in Queen Anne's reign. The number of acts passed, and acres of land enclosed, up to 1797, is stated as follows :—

Reign.	Acts.	Acres.
Anne	2	1,439
Geo. I.	16	17,660
Geo. II.	226	318,778
Geo. III.	1532	2,804,197

The Committee estimated the acreage of England at 46,000,000; of which 1,200,000 acres were common fields, and imperfectly cultivated, and 9,800,000

waste or common, leaving one-fifth part open to a general enclosure act.

The following statement will elucidate the condition of labourers in husbandry in the period under notice; it is the weekly expenses of the family of an agricultural labourer, consisting of 5½ persons, being an average of the expense of 65 families of labourers in different parts of England, collected by Sir F. Eden in 1796 :—

	s.	d.
Bread, flour, or oatmeal . . . . .	6	5
Yeast and salt . . . . .	0	2
Bacon or other meat . . . . .	1	2
Tea, sugar, and butter . . . . .	1	2½
Soap . . . . .	0	3½
Candles . . . . .	0	4
Cheese . . . . .	0	4½
Beer . . . . .	0	3
Milk . . . . .	0	3
Potatoes . . . . .	0	7
Thread and worsted . . . . .	0	2½

Exclusive of rent, fuel, clothes, deaths, births, and sickness, which made the average expense amount to 36*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.* a-year.

Wages, both in husbandry and skilled trades, were greatly advanced by the high price of provisions in 1800-1; those of labourers fully one-half, and those of the carpenter, bricklayer, mason, and plumber, rose to above double the rates mentioned on a former occasion (p. 567).

#### PRICES, CONSUMPTION, MORTALITY.

Prices of PUBLIC STOCKS in January; the number of BANKRUPTS in each year; and the average price per quarter of WHEAT at Windsor market :—

Yr.	3 per Ct.	Bk.	India.	Bks.	Wt.
1793	76	172	183	1304	55
1794	68	159	204	816	54
1795	63	152	184	708	81
1796	69	176	216	760	80
1797	55	141	170	869	62
1798	48	118	148	721	54
1799	53	138	163	556	75
1800	61	155	197	745	127
1801	58	151	201	852	128
1802	68	183	211	—	67

CIRCULATION of the Bank of England; the Number of BARRELS of BEER charged to the Excise duty in England and Wales; and the pounds weight of TEA sold at the Sales of the East India Company :—

Year.	Circulation.	Beer.	Tea.
	£		
1793	11,376,980	7,202,313	17,373,687
1794	10,515,400	7,044,813	19,112,043
1795	12,439,850	7,067,304	21,307,609
1796	9,988,150	7,549,213	20,577,894
1797	10,394,450	7,942,561	18,780,031
1798	12,638,220	7,954,101	22,813,271

Year.	Circulation. £	Beer.	Tea.
1799	13,174,645	7,982,601	24,070,340
1800	15,945,825	6,759,803	23,378,816
1801	15,389,695	6,427,529	24,470,645
1802	16,142,155	6,714,693	25,144,171

PRICES of the following articles of consumption, exclusive of the duty, were as follows:—

Year.	Coals, pr chal.	Coffee, pr cwt.	Flour, pr sack.	Sugar, pr cwt.	Tea, per lb.
1793	26	100	38	43	20
1794	27	100	38	42	20
1795	33	100	48	34	22
1796	—	134	80	58	26
1797	25	126	45	51	24
1798	35	138	45	58	26
1799	38	170	45	59	30
1800	33	128	90	34	24
1801	37	150	130	55	26
1802	—	110	70	33	21

Newcastle coal; coffee, the highest priced Jamaica; sugar, raw brown Jamaica; tea, Bohea. Prices are stated in shillings, except tea, which is in pence.

CATTLE and Sheep sold in Smithfield Market, with the Christenings and Burials within the London Bills of Mortality:—

Yr.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Burials.	Chstgs.
1793	116,848	728,480	21,749	19,108
1794	109,448	119,420	19,241	18,689
1795	131,092	745,640	21,179	18,361
1796	117,152	758,840	19,288	18,826
1797	108,377	693,510	17,014	18,645
1798	107,470	753,010	18,155	17,927
1799	122,986	834,400	18,134	18,970
1800	125,073	842,240	23,068	19,176
1801	134,546	760,560	19,374	17,814
1802	126,389	743,470	19,379	19,918

The increase of burials in 1800–1 was, doubtless, partly caused by the dearth, approaching to famine, of these years; it is by connecting such effects with their causes that a value is given to statistical tables.

#### CANAL-NAVIGATION, PORT OF LONDON.

The first efforts to extend internal navigation were directed to the widening, deepening, and otherwise improving the natural rivers of the kingdom. In 1635 Mr. Sandys formed a project for rendering the Avon navigable, through the counties of Warwick, Worcester, and Gloucester, "that the towns and country might be better supplied with wood, iron, pit-coal, and other commodities." Similar attempts, in other districts, continued to be made for a century later; but for the most part with indifferent success. Rivers not communicating direct with the sea, and unaided by the tide, mostly form expensive

and uncertain channels for the conveyance of merchandise. The ascent of them is laborious; their banks and beds are constantly undergoing changes by the shifting of sands, and the action of the current, and of floods; they are often impassable in summer, from drought; and in winter, from inundations. These difficulties in the way of river-navigation suggested the expediency of abandoning the channels of most rivers, and of digging parallel to them artificial channels, in which the water might be kept at the proper level by means of locks.—(*McCulloch's Com. Dict.*, 211.) The first lateral canal of this sort in England was begun 1755, for improving the navigation of Sankey-brook on the Mersey. But it is to the Duke of Bridgewater, and his celebrated engineer, James Brindley, that the country is chiefly indebted for this description of internal navigation. Possessing valuable coal-fields on his estate at Worsley, seven miles from Manchester, but the sale for which was diminutive, owing to the expense of transport, the duke sought to obviate the disadvantage. He first thought of making Worsley-brook navigable to the Irwell, which, was itself navigable to Manchester; but was diverted from the project by Mr. Brindley, who was aware of the inconvenience of river conveyance, and whose favourite idea was that "rivers were chiefly valuable to feed navigable canals." Acting on the suggestion of this bold and ingenious engineer, the duke constructed a level canal from Worsley to Manchester, carrying it over the Irwell by an aqueduct 39 feet high. The canal in 1761 was extended by a side-branch running through Cheshire, parallel to the Mersey, and falling into that river at Runcorn, by which a safer and cheaper conveyance by water was opened from Manchester to Liverpool. Immense benefits resulted from these enterprises; the price of coals was reduced to one-half at Manchester; the rates of carriage from that place to Liverpool had heretofore been 12s. per ton by the Mersey, and 40s. per ton land-carriage: by act of Parliament the duke was limited to the charge of 6s. per ton on his canal, which was a speedier and better conveyance.

Notwithstanding the great reduction in the price of coals at Manchester, and the rates of carriage to Liverpool, the noble proprietor realised, as he deserved to do, an immense revenue from his spirited undertakings; and the success which attended them gave a wonderful impulse to canal navigation. In 1766 Mr. Brindley was employed to connect the Trent and Mersey by a canal, called the Grand Trunk Canal, but he died in 1772, five years before the completion of this undertaking. He had



formed the idea of joining the four great ports of London, Liverpool, Bristol, and Hull by grand canals, from which subsidiary branches might be carried to contiguous towns;—a magnificent conception, that was subsequently realised, though he did not live to see it.

The west riding of Yorkshire was early distinguished by efforts to improve internal navigation. The communication between the Mersey and Humber by the Grand Trunk Canal is circuitous and tedious; and another more northerly line of communication was formed, not less circuitous, certainly, but with the advantage of passing through the chief seats of the cotton and woollen manufacture. A canal was opened from Liverpool, by the way of Skipton, to Leeds, thence communicating at Selby, by the Air and Calder navigation, with the Humber. This gigantic work was begun in 1790: it took forty-six years to complete it, and cost 1,200,000*l*. (*Statistics of the British Empire*, ii, 187.) Notwithstanding its enormous cost, and the competition of other lines, it has become, contrary to what was long anticipated, remunerative to the shareholders. The most extraordinary canal undertaking in this part of the country is the Rochdale and Huddersfield canal, carried over the central ridge that separates Yorkshire from Lancashire. The summit of the canal is 656 feet above the level of the sea, being the highest elevation of any canal in the kingdom; and is carried through a rocky mountain, called Standedge, by a tunnel three miles in length. In speaking of this gigantic work at the period of its completion, the *Annual Register* says, "A century ago the Yorkshire hills were with difficulty passed on horseback; they are now crossed by three navigable canals, on which a million of money has been expended."

The profitable returns from the Bridgewater and other canals had the effect of generating a spirit of speculation. In the summer of 1792 there was quite a rage for these undertakings; and the shares in the Grand Trunk, the Stourbridge, Birmingham, Fazely, and other canals, rose to enormous premiums (p. 561). The consequence was that many projects were entered upon without due consideration either as to their cost or utility; they were the schemes of adventurers, who only sought to profit by the prevailing intoxication, and many became the dupes of their exaggerated representations.

The period under notice was also remarkable for the great improvements effected in the ports and harbours of the kingdom. These partly resulted from the extension of canal navigation, but more

directly from the vast increase of shipping and commerce. This was peculiarly the case with the PORT OF LONDON. It was only after the termination of the American war, and the loss of the transatlantic colonies, that the commerce of the river Thames began rapidly to increase. At the commencement of the 18th century, in the year 1700, exclusive of the coasting-trade, the

Imports amounted to	£4,875,538
Exports	5,387,787

Total . . . . £10,263,325

At the middle of the century, in 1750, the

Imports were	£5,540,564
Exports	8,415,218

Total . . . . £13,955,782

So that in half a century the exports and imports together had increased only 3,692,456*l*. But in the six years from 1790 to 1796, the trade of the port of London, notwithstanding the war, increased more than triple the amount of its advance during the first fifty years of the century, as appears from the following statement:—

Imports and Exports, 1790	£22,992,095
Idem	1796 33,282,046

Increase . . . . £10,289,951

In 1796 the exports and imports of all the out-ports of England amounted to 17,476,953*l*., or about one-half the trade of the port of London. The accommodations for this vast increase in the traffic of the Thames became quite inadequate, it being prior to the erection of those magnificent works, the London and the East and West India Docks, with their vast piles of warehouses. About 13,000 vessels arrived annually in the river; their cargoes had to be landed at what were termed the *legal* quays, twenty in number, extending from London-bridge to the Tower; or, if these were insufficient, at the sufferance-wharfs on the opposite side of the Thames. It was only the smaller craft that could approach the quays; all the larger vessels were obliged to deliver their cargoes by the means of lighters, as colliers continue to do. The American ships, and the ships in the West India trade, employed lighters. The East India ships discharged their cargoes into decked hoys belonging to the Company. The delay in the delivery of cargoes was often very great; and in particular seasons of the year, when the Pool was crowded with shipping, the confusion was indescribable. Innumerable opportunities were afforded for pillage, fraud, and embezzlement. The revenue suffered, and

individuals sustained immense losses from depredation and the exposure of their property on the wharfs; sugars and other valuable commodities often remaining for months unprotected upon the quays, six or eight hogsheads high. In 1796 a parliamentary committee was appointed to devise remedies for these disorders, and better accommodation for the increased trade of the river. But no legislation followed the appointment of this committee. In 1799 the subject was revived; and the present dock system was entered upon in good earnest, by passing an act for the erection of the West India Docks (39 Geo. III. c. 69). In a year or two after, (*vide* Jan. 1804) acts were passed for the erection of the London and East India Docks. These, with the establishment of the Thames police, effected a complete revolution and vast improvement in the navigation of the port of London.

#### CENSUS OF THE POPULATION.

It shows a remarkable indifference in the Legislature to economical inquiries of great public interest, that no measure was adopted for obtaining an authentic enumeration of the people till the year 1800. Prior to that time the population of England was a matter of conjecture, and very discordant opinions were entertained on the subject by public writers. It was the opinion of Dr. Price, supported by some ingenious remarks on births and burials, that there had been a *gradual decline* in the populousness of England since the revolution of 1688; and that at the time he wrote, about 1780, the number of people in England and Wales amounted only to 4,763,000, being 737,000 less than Gregory King's estimate of the population in 1699 (*ante* p. 266). This statement excited great attention, and encountered a sharp opposition from those who were sanguine in their representations of national prosperity. Arthur Young justly inferred, from the progress of improvements in agriculture, in manufactures, and in commerce, an augmentation in the number of the people. Messrs. Eden, Howlett, and Wales entered the lists against Dr. Price, to show that the public returns on which he relied for the verity of his conclusions were most erroneous, and his reasonings, besides, were illogical and inconclusive. These rejoinders had the effect of reviving the public spirit; and the friends of Dr. Price were so far impressed by them as to be reduced to a state of sceptical suspense, in which they admitted the "uncertainty of the present population." Parliament, however, still remained quiescent: either from superstitious notions of the impiety of an inquiry into the numbers of

the people, or reluctance to betray the desolateness of the country to the enemy, they took no steps to solve remaining doubts, and the statistical controversy on the subject was kept up, with little intermission, to the end of the century. It might not have been then terminated by an authorised investigation, had not the severe distresses of the people in 1795-6, and more acutely in 1800, forcibly suggested the importance of ascertaining whether they were occasioned, or in what degree, by an increase in the number of consumers, or a deficiency of agricultural produce? The results of the parliamentary inquiry satisfactorily showed that the people had increased, were increasing, and, in the opinion of some, ought to be diminished, either by emigration, moral restraint, or some other of the preventive checks of Mr. Malthus.

The Population Act, introduced by Mr. Abbot in 1800, has been repeated at every decennary period down to 1831. Availing himself of the returns of births, marriages, and deaths, obtained under these acts, Mr. Finlayson has drawn up a statement of the progress of the population through the whole of the last century. From this statement, which is subjoined, it appears that population rather declined in the first ten years after 1700, and that it only increased slowly during the tranquil reigns of George I. and II. In 1760 the inhabitants of towns began rapidly to multiply, from the powerful impulse given to commercial and manufacturing industry by mechanical inventions.

Progress of the Population of England and Wales from the year 1700 to 1800:—

Year.	Population.	Year.	Population.
1700	5,134,516	1760	6,479,730
1710	5,066,337	1770	7,227,586
1720	5,345,351	1780	7,814,827
1730	5,687,993	1790	8,540,738
1740	5,829,705	1800	9,187,176
1750	6,039,684		

For more detailed returns of the population in 1801 and subsequent years, see 1831, when the latest census was taken. No complete census of the population of Ireland was taken till 1821.

#### UNION WITH IRELAND.

The chief epochs in the history of Ireland up to the present era were the great revolution in the landed property of the kingdom under the Protectorate of Oliver Cromwell (*ante* p. 247); the Treaty of Limerick in 1691, which guaranteed to the catholics the religious immunities enjoyed under Charles II.; the efforts of the Irish volunteers in 1782 to obtain from the English government a free trade; and succes-



sive mitigations, in the course of the reign of George III., of a penal code, that not only subjected catholics to severe religious disqualifications, but interdicted to them the ordinary rights of property, inheritance, and marriage. In 1793 catholics were admitted to vote for members of parliament. It was only by a violation of the articles of Limerick that they were excluded from seats in the house of commons. During the reign of Charles II. catholics sat in parliament, and they were only excluded by a statute of William III., which required the members of both houses to take the oath of supremacy. As the Irish house of commons assumed to be independent of the English, this statute did not extend to Ireland, but it was acquiesced in, and catholics ceased to sit in parliament. The Irish house of commons, indeed, for a long period after the Restoration, was not legislative; it was a mere council placed at the arbitrary will of the executive government. It met only every two years; and the members held their seats, not by triennial or septennial election, but during the pleasure of the crown.

The close of the rebellion of 1798 offered to Mr. Pitt a favourable opportunity for terminating the separate existence of the Irish parliament. The loyal part of the population were alarmed by the evidence of foreign connexions which that disastrous experiment disclosed; and many who had engaged in the struggle, and were distracted between the fear of punishment and the hope of mercy, were glad to purchase safety by acquiescence in the minister's scheme. The catholics were seduced by delusive hopes of emancipation; and while the established church was assured of its ascendancy, protection was held out to sectarians. To lord Castlereagh, under the guidance of the viceroy, the marquis Cornwallis, was confided the operative part of procuring the concurrence of the Irish parliament. The principle upon which the chief secretary proceeded was that of preventing loss and of securing benefits to those possessed of political influence. Some, like sir Jonah Barrington, however, refused to be won, and preferred the glory of legislative independence—though it had never been productive of benefit to Ireland—to the most seductive lures of the minister.

Lord Castlereagh's first object was to introduce into the house of commons, by means of a Place Bill, a sufficient number of dependents to balance opposition. He next openly announced a scale of compensation, to all who chose to accept it, for the loss of patronage and interest. First, he proposed that to every nobleman who returned members to parliament should be

paid 15,000*l.* for every member he returned. Secondly, that every member who had purchased a seat in parliament should have his purchase-money repaid to him by the Irish treasury. And, thirdly, that all other members, and those who were losers by the Union, should receive full compensation for their losses. In order to carry these objects into effect, 1,500,000*l.* was raised by taxation on the people of Ireland to buy up the interests of their representatives and of the borough proprietors.

The sums paid, as stated by sir Jonah Barrington, to the following (*Historic Memoirs of Ireland*, ii. 342), will elucidate the scale of compensation:—

Lord Shannon for his patronage in the Commons . . . . .	£45,000
The marquis of Ely . . . . .	45,000
Lord Clanmorris, besides a peerage . . . . .	23,000
Lord Belvidere, besides his <i>douceur</i> . . . . .	15,000
Sir Hercules Langrishe . . . . .	15,000

By this mode of procedure the obstacles which had opposed the legislative union of England and Ireland were removed. Sir Jonah Barrington says (*Historic Memoirs*, ii. 376) that twenty-five members who had successfully opposed the union in 1799 voted for it in 1800, making a difference of fifty in its favour. In England there was some difference of opinion as to its policy. Mr. Fox, as before noticed, was against the union, on the ground that the influx of Irish members into the imperial parliament would be so much additional weight placed at the disposal of the crown. Lords Holland, Thanet, and King signed a protest against the union in the upper house (*Ann. Reg.*, xli. 201). They relied on precedent; alleging that the union with Scotland was a source of discontent and tumult; and that the Scotch peers petitioned for its dissolution six years after it was concluded.

#### MEN OF LETTERS.

William Robertson, D.D., modern historian, 1721—1793. "History of Scotland during the Reigns of Queen Mary and James VI," 2 vols. 4to., 1759; "History of the Emperor Charles V," 3 vols. 4to., 1769; "History of America," 2 vols. 4to., 1777; "Disquisition concerning the Knowledge which the Ancients had of India," 4to., 1791.

Horace Walpole (earl of Orford), 1718—1797. "Royal and Noble Authors," 1758; "Anecdotes of Painting," 2 vols. 4to., 1761; "Castle of Otranto," 1765; "Historic Doubts of Richard III," 1768;

A collective edition of Walpole's Letters and Manuscript Works was published in 1798, in 5 vols. 4to.

James Bruce, Abyssinian traveller, 1730—1794. "Travels," 4 vols. 4to., 1796.

John Hunter, eminent anatomist, 1728—1793. "Natural History of the Teeth," 4to., 1771; "Observations on the Animal Economy," 1786; "Treatise on the Blood and Gun-shot Wounds," 1790.

George Colman, dramatist and essayist, 1733—1794.

Thomas Reid, Scottish divine and metaphysician, 1710—1796. "Inquiry into the Human Mind on principles of Common Sense," 1764; "Essays on Intellectual Powers of Man," 1786; "Essays on the Active Powers," 1788.

Edward Gibbon, Roman historian, 1737—1794. "Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire," 1st vol. 4to. 1776, 2nd and 3rd vols. 1781, and the remaining 3 vols. of this great work in 1788; "Miscellaneous Works," 2 vols. 4to., posthumous, in 1796.

William Mason, poems and biography, 1725—1797.

Edmund Burke, celebrated orator, 1730—1797. "Vindication of Natural Society," 1756; "Essay on the Sublime and Beautiful," 1757; "Annual Register," vol. i. 1758 (*vide* p. 604); "Short Account of a Short Administration;" "Thoughts on the Cause of present Discontents," 1770; "Reflections on the French Revolution," 1790; "Letter to a Member of the National Assembly," 1791; "An Appeal from the New to the Old Whigs;" "Letter to a Noble Lord on his Pension;" "Thoughts on a Regicide Peace;" "Letter to Sir Hercules Langrishe on the Catholics," 1792.

Robert Burns, Scottish poet, 1759—1796.

Joseph Milner, sermons and church history, 1744—1797.

Hugh Blair, Scottish divine, 1718—1800. "Sermons," 1777; "Lectures on Composition," 1783.

Sir William Jones, lawyer and orientalist, 1746—1794. "De Poesi Asiatica," 1774; "Legal mode of Suppressing Riots," 1780; "Dialogue between a Farmer and a Country Gentleman," 1782; "Ordinances of Menu," 1794; with various papers in the Asiatic Researches.

James Boswell, 1740—1795. "Account of Corsica," 1768; "Life of Samuel Johnson, LL.D.," 2 vols. 4to., 1790.

Joseph Strutt, artist and antiquary, 1749—1802. "Regal and Ecclesiastical Antiquities of England," 4to., 1773; "Biographical Dictionary of Engravers," 2 vols., 1786; "Dresses and Habits of the English," 4to., 1792; "Sports and Pastimes of the People of England," 1801.

James Macpherson, Scottish writer, 1738—1796. "Fragments of Ancient Poetry," 1760; "Poems of Ossian," 1763. Macpherson was also author of several historical works, and of a prose translation of Homer's Iliad.

William Cowper, poet, 1731—1800. "Tirocinium," a poem; "The Task," 1785; Translation of Homer into blank verse, 2 vols. 4to., 1791.

Erasmus Darwin, physician and poet, 1721—1802. "Botanic Garden," 1781; "Zoonomia, or Laws of Organic Life," 1793; "Philosophy of Agriculture and Gardening," 1801.

### GEORGE III. A.D. 1803 to 1816

THE second period of the great revolutionary war was terminated by the decisive battle of Waterloo, and the settlement of Europe under its ancient dynasties. It is pregnant with grand military achievements. Directed by a chief of transcendent genius, France overpowered in rapid succession the continental states, and aspired to the glory of universal dominion. England singly stood forth to challenge her ambitious pretensions, and sought, by her maritime preponderance, like Carthage of old, to limit her territorial encroachments. A second Punic war ensued, distinguished by wonderful vicissitudes, but the sequel of which, contrary to that recorded of the memorable struggle of the rival commonwealths of the Roman era, terminated in the signal triumph of the naval power.

The Treaty of Amiens was never consummated. A hollow peace was agreed to, but confidence was not inspired, and both combatants remained with lance at rest, ready to renew the conflict. France complained of the non-evacuation of Malta; England rejoined that the evacuation of the



island to the knights of St. John of Jerusalem had become impracticable, in consequence of the conduct of France and Spain, in having destroyed the independence of the Order by the sequestration of its revenues. Other and more serious grounds of mistrust and irritation subsisted between the two nations. Misled by a military education, the First Consul sought the greatness of France chiefly by an extension of empire, and was unceasingly occupied in projects of aggrandisement, in forming secret alliances, in fitting out expeditions hostile to England, in annexations of territory, and in sending out exploratory missions to Egypt, and even to this country\*. These proceedings excited the suspicion and jealousy of England. Moreover, a powerful war-faction existed, which had from the first deprecated the peace of Amiens either as dangerous or inglorious, and seized every opportunity to aggravate the differences and, if possible, produce a rupture between the two countries. The British press was the chief instrument employed. Buonaparte's character and personal history were depicted in revolting colours, and his own unguarded demeanour afforded plausible pretexts for the exaggerations of party writers. Naturally arrogant, and elated and restless by his sudden elevation to supreme power, he betrayed a petulance and want of dignity unworthy of his high station. He personally insulted the English ambassador, questioned the right of England to meddle in continental affairs, and, in soldierly gasconade, boasted that Britain could not contend singly against France. The last, more than the infliction of any real injury, or the violation of any compact, produced a renewal of hostilities. National pride was hurt, and the prejudices of the people roused; so that the second war began, like the first, with the popular sanction.

The situation of the two countries was unfortunate: they could neither live at peace nor effectually wage war against each other. Like quarrelsome boys on the opposite sides of a brook, they could only throw stones at a distance. All, however, that could be done for mutual injury and annoyance was promptly executed. England swept the seas of the enemy, and took possession of her colonies; France seized Hanover, despite of the declaration of George III. that he was at war only as king of England, not as German elector. Contrary to international usage but on the plea that French ships had been captured prior to a declaration of war, Buonaparte arrested all the English in France, detaining them prisoners of war. Much individual suffering was thereby occasioned, as well as from the interruption of commerce in the north of Germany. Spite and hatred could suggest nothing further in the first year of hostilities, and the belligerents were compelled to sit down, growl, gnash their teeth, and hurl reciprocal defiance. Napoleon revived the threat of an invasion, and England sought to subsidise a new coalition on the Continent. Animosities were exasperated by the conspiracy of Pichegru, Georges, and other royalists, landed from England to assassinate the First Consul; and the duke d'Enghien became the victim of the retaliatory vengeance of the French ruler. It paved the way, already not much impeded, for the assumption of the imperial dignity by Napoleon, who became, in May, 1804, emperor of the French, with power to choose his successor.

In the same month an important change took place in the British councils. Mr. Addington first sought the auxiliary aid of Mr. Pitt; but that gentleman, adhering to the rule of his outset in life, of "not accepting any

\* Vide the Declaration of War, May 18, 1803.

subaltern "situation\*," declined copartnership: only the premiership would satisfy his ambition, and, in the existing position of political parties, it was sufficient that he willed it. Up to the present, Mr. Pitt had given ministers his parliamentary support; but, thinking the time had arrived for resuming the helm, he joined the opposition of Mr. Fox and lord Grenville, which forced Mr. Addington to resign. Mr. Pitt's second ministry was popular in the nation, but weak in parliament. His political character suffered by the abandonment of the catholic question—to which the Grenvilles adhered—and the exclusion of Mr. Fox. He sought to strengthen himself by raising Mr. Addington to the peerage, and by his appointment to be lord-president of the council. This union was short-lived, viscount Sidmouth dissenting from the minister's scheme to screen the delinquencies of lord Melville from punishment; and soon withdrew from his administration.

Amidst these difficulties and disagreements was the disastrous continental war. The impatience of the British government had hurried Austria into hostilities before the arrival of the Russians, and without concert with Prussia, or even ascertaining whether that power intended to be neutral, friendly, or hostile in the struggle. The result was almost magical. With his maps and compasses, Buonaparte planned the destruction of the Austrian forces; and what he had warily conceived in the Tuileries he executed in the field with the celerity and force of the thunderbolt. General Mack was surrounded at Ulm, and compelled to surrender, by the armies which, a short time before, had been assembled in Holland and on the coast of Brittany, for the invasion of England. Confounded by the masterly tactics of the French emperor, Vienna was abandoned to the conqueror, which he entered; and, before the conclusion of 1805, closed the campaign and the war, by the victory of Austerlitz and the Treaty of Presburg. The signal defeat at Trafalgar was the only reverse sustained by the French arms in this year of splendid successes; and this victory England dearly won by the loss of the most generous and brave of her naval warriors.

The death of Mr. Pitt formed the opening occurrence of 1806. It was sought to replace him by one of his colleagues, the earl of Liverpool, but his lordship declined the premiership; justly concluding that the slender materials left by his late superior were of too little weight, either in parliament or in the country, more especially as they were disunited among themselves, to form a stable administration. Recourse was in consequence had to the political combination denominated the "Old and New Opposition," headed respectively by Mr. Fox and lord Grenville, whose influence and principles are described in the Events and Occurrences. Though the GRENVILLE MINISTRY was a combined firm, established by the union of three sections of politicians (*vide* Feb. 5, 1806), and supported by the confidence of the aristocracy and middle ranks, still it was from the first weak, in not having the favour of the court and the populace, and in being actively opposed, through the agency of corporations and the Press, by monopolists and displaced officials. Moreover, it trusted too much to high principles, that conciliated only the minority of the enlightened, while it committed itself irredeemably with the multitude by acts savouring of pecuniary greediness or constitutional violations. The effect was manifest in the cold reception given to its supporters in the

\* Belsham's History of George III., xii. 167.



general election that followed the death of Mr. Fox, in the autumn. The adverse position of affairs on the Continent augmented its embarrassments. Buonaparte was pursuing a career of unchecked aggrandisement, by establishing the Confederation of the Rhine, changing the republic of the Seven Islands into a monarchy for his brother Louis, and placing his brother Joseph on the throne of Naples. We were embroiled with Prussia, who had seized Hanover; and began hostilities with the Turks, in which we were worsted, to compel the Porte to make peace with our ally, the emperor Alexander, who had been the aggressor in the war. In the height of these entanglements was fought the great battle of Jena, which at one blow laid another kingdom at the feet of the conqueror. The humiliation of the court of Berlin was beheld without commiseration. Despised and insulted by the French, at war with England, hated by Austria for her wavering and selfish policy, Prussia had been left singly to contend against her giant opponent, supported chiefly by some reminiscences of military glory derived from the Great Frederick. Before the close of the campaign the French eagles had penetrated beyond the Oder, where the affair of Pultusk with the Russians showed that they had still enemies to combat not unworthy of their daring.

Mr. Fox died in September, leaving a chasm among his colleagues that could not be filled up by any of equal weight and popularity. Like his rival, he expired amidst continental reverses; the requiem of Pitt being the victory of Austerlitz—that of Fox, the overthrow of Jena. In eight months the leading political parties had lost their chiefs under whom they had pertinaciously combated for twenty years. They had been divided, however, rather by views of interest or hereditary predilections than conflicting principles. Ambition linked Mr. Pitt to the court; aristocratic sympathies and companionship, Mr. Fox to the whig families. Both were men of the constitution as settled in 1688, with this difference, that, contrary to the common impression, Mr. Pitt was less apprehensive than his opponent of the ascendancy of the democratic branch of the government. In their notions of external policy there was no divergence. The maintenance of a balance of power in Europe, by continental alliances, was the common pivot; and Mr. Fox trod closely in the steps of his predecessor in 1806, when he made war on Prussia and Turkey, and refused to treat with France for peace unless in concert with our Russian ally. Parties founded on principles may be hereditary, but factions usually expire with the interests that have banded them together. This would have been the consummation of the Fox and Pitt combinations, but that the interests which divided the leaders descended, with their animosities, to their followers, keeping them long after hostilely confederated.

The Grenville ministry did not long survive the loss of the foreign secretary. They had not been more successful in their negotiations for peace than their predecessors, and the events of the war were unfavourable. A difference with the king on the removal of religious tests, that kept a large portion of his subjects in a state of civil disqualification, was the proximate cause of their downfall. It was not, however, for the maintenance of a principle that they were dismissed—that they conceded to the monarch's scruples; but for the profitless ostentation of recording one in the cabinet proceedings. Intriguers, availing themselves of this punctilio, slipped in: a wretched cry of the "Church in Danger" was got up; the sense of the people was taken by a general election, at the height of the popular delirium; and the result was,

the firm establishment of the PORTLAND MINISTRY, of which Mr. Percival was the leading member.

This was in the spring of 1807. Meanwhile Napoleon was waging against the Russians a bloody war in Poland, which was terminated, after the sanguinary conflicts of Eylau and Friedland by the peace of Tilsit. The romantic king of Sweden was our only remaining ally. Despairing of mastering us by the sword, the French emperor resolved to dry up our pecuniary resources, which, he affirmed, had been the bribe and *pabulum* of all the coalitions that had been formed against him. Dictator of continental Europe, he sought to exclude British commerce in every port and place to which his power or influence extended. He began with his Berlin decree, issued in November, 1806: it was followed by others in the present year, dated at Milan. Orders in Council were promulgated by the English in retaliation, and the effect of both was the destruction of neutral commerce. The war had assumed such a character of bitterness, that the rights of nations were not respected by either belligerent, nor even by powers at peace. Russia unjustly wrested Finland from Sweden. England began her infractions of international law by a piratical attack on four Spanish ships of war in 1804, and crowned her turpitude in 1809, by the bombardment of Copenhagen and the seizure of the Danish fleet. Justice was outraged on all sides; the peaceful pursuits of commerce everywhere interrupted; and the enjoyments that result from the reciprocal intercourse of nations abridged, merely because of the rancorous hatred of two governments; for the war had become entirely objectless; neither party had power to injure the other: England was indisputable master at sea, and France on land.

About the year 1808 imperial France reached her meridian greatness. In that year the sway of the French emperor was more absolute in power, and more extended and indisputable in territory, than at any subsequent period. His empire was surrounded by a cordon of vassal kings of his own creation, or by federative unions of which he was the Mediator or Protector. Prussia existed only as a matter of grace and favour; Austria, three times conquered, was fearful to incur his displeasure; while Russia was bound by her late treaty to co-operate with him in his plans for the humiliation of England. About forty-five millions of French, Italian, Flemish, and Dutch subjects were directly obedient to his will, and thirty-eight millions more were influenced by his authority. With all this vast power at his command, Buonaparte could never succeed in fully establishing his CONTINENTAL SYSTEM. It was only his immense influence, his prodigious energy, and a resolution steeled against remonstrance or disappointment, that could possibly have seduced him into the undertaking. It was the will of one man opposed to the interest of every nation, of every individual. British commerce had everywhere its ramifications and interested supporters. A smuggler's cove, an obscure creek, or a dark night, was sufficient to baffle his most savage ordinances, and did baffle them. Heligoland became the great depôt of English manufactures, and they always found their way into the Continent despite of Napoleon's midnight searches, and burnings at Antwerp and Hamburgh.

The anti-commercial war of the French ruler was the beginning of the end of his domination. It led to the introduction of French troops into the Peninsula, first under the pretext of excluding British commerce from Portugal, and next of "infusing youth into the decrepid Spanish



monarchy." In 1808 the celebrated intrigues at Bayonne commenced. Charles IV. resigned the crown of Spain to prince Ferdinand, who was jealous of the Prince of Peace, an instrument of France, and the favourite of the queen and her imbecile husband. Buonaparte, who fomented the dissensions of the royal family, procured himself to be appointed umpire of their differences; but, in lieu of awarding the crown to father or son, he placed it on the head of a member of his own family. Europe was an attentive spectator of these extraordinary scenes; on one side was seen folly and weakness almost incredible; on the other, ambition, subtlety, and a contempt for the opinion of mankind, that excited universal indignation. The Spaniards, enraged at the treatment of their princes and the perfidy of their betrayer, flew to arms. A bloody insurrection at Madrid showed that, however debased they were, they were still capable of resistance when trampled upon. England, ever watchful to deal a blow to her implacable foe, exultingly beheld the gathering storm, aided its rising, in which she was zealously seconded by the privileged classes of Spain, especially the priesthood, who foresaw in the ascendancy of the French the degradation of their worship and the loss of their revenues. Before the close of the year, the supreme Spanish Junta was established, and unlooked-for successes attended the patriot cause. A large French force under general Dupont was surrounded at Baylen; the French fleet mastered at Cadiz; and the Spanish troops in Denmark declared in favour of their oppressed countrymen.

The year 1809 was remarkable for events, but not important results. In England public attention was engrossed by a parliamentary inquiry into the conduct of the duke of York in his office of commander-in-chief. The retreat of sir John Moore, and the battles of Corunna and Talavera, were the stirring occurrences of the Peninsula. Austria, availing herself of the diversion of the Spanish insurrection, determined once more to try the fortune of war. The struggle was brief, but sharp and decisive; terminating, after the sanguinary actions of Aspern and Wagram on the Danube, in favour of the French, who a second time entered Vienna in triumph. A peace followed, in which the Tyrolese, who had risen in favour of the Austrians, were unceremoniously abandoned to their Bavarian rulers. The efforts of the emperor Francis were sought to be aided by a powerful armament despatched to the Scheldt from England. This was the memorable WALCHEREN EXPEDITION, which, as it was the largest, so it was the most disastrous of all the British enterprises, and the blame of the failure of which is shared between the ministers and the officers they selected for the direction of the undertaking. Great public dissatisfaction was expressed at the ill success of this and other measures of government, which was heightened by the discovery that intrigues and dissensions had existed in the cabinet, terminating first in the resignation, then a duel between Mr. Canning and lord Castlereagh. The duke of Portland dying soon after, an overture was made to the whigs, to co-operate in forming a combined administration, which, being declined by that party, Mr. Percival became prime minister by uniting to his former office of chancellor of the exchequer that of first lord of the treasury. A national jubilee, to celebrate the fiftieth year of the king's reign, concluded the annual occurrences.

Parliamentary transactions hold a prominent place in the events of 1810; of which the expedition to Walcheren, contests respecting the privileges of the house of commons, the depreciation of the currency, and commercial distresses, took the lead in public interest. A THIRD PARTY had been gradually acquiring importance in the State, which disclaimed all

connexion with aristocratic interests and associations\*. Its chief seat, and even birth-place, was the city of Westminster; and grew out of the mal-administration of public affairs, the divisions and selfishness of the factions, the corruptions in the public offices, the inequalities and inefficiency of the national representation, the sale of seats, and the public defence of that sale in the lower house of parliament. Differing from the reform societies established about the close of the American war in 1780, it wholly eschewed co-operation with any section of the aristocracy, considering the entire generation of existing public men, whether *Ins* or *Outs*, as formed only to mislead and betray, and wholly undeserving the confidence of the people. It had another point of distinction, which separated it from the republican societies formed at the beginning of the French revolution. Enlightened by that great social experiment, and disgusted by the usurpations of the French ruler, the popular party sought to realise no visionary dreams of *liberty* and *equality*. Its scope of reform was limited to the pale of the constitution, and consisted in the establishment of a government responsible to the nation, through the medium of virtual representatives in parliament, not the nominees of the Treasury, of borough proprietors, and decayed corporations.

In the course of the session this party took an active part in a contest with the house of commons. The dispute itself was ridiculous in its origin, and consisted in a manifest perversion of a clause in the Bill of Rights. However, it excited great heat and a violent ferment in the metropolis. The house claimed the right forcibly to arrest and imprison an individual, not a member of parliament, for an infringement of its privileges. This was denied by one of its own members, who was himself arrested and imprisoned in the Tower. A riot ensued, and some lives were lost, of which the details will be found in the Occurrences of the year.

Transactions abroad were not deeply interesting. The conduct of the war in the Peninsula Buonaparte abandoned to his generals. Marshal Massena overran Portugal; but his progress was arrested at Torres Vedras by sir Arthur Wellesley, who, in the conduct of the Portuguese campaign, displayed that rare union of skill and cautious enterprise that had made him famous in India and afterwards in Europe. With the view of raising up a successor to the "empire of Charlemagne," which Napoleon boasted he had, under the "favour of Divine Providence," re-established, he separated from the empress Josephine, and married an Austrian archduchess. One of his marshals was elected crown-prince of Sweden, and now fills the throne of that kingdom. The province of Venezuela declared itself independent of the mother-country: the example was followed by other trans-Atlantic states, and was the commencement of a series of sanguinary revolutions in Spanish America.

The year 1811 was memorable for the commencement of the *REGENCY* of the prince of Wales, at first with restrictions on the executive power; but after the expiration of a year, in full sovereignty. It terminated the responsible government of George III., who never recovered from his mental incapacity, to the exercise of the regal functions. No change followed in the policy of the government or in its established administration. In the course of the parliamentary session there were protracted discussions on the state of the currency, and on the commercial difficulties resulting from the Orders of Council, which, with the conflicting Berlin and Milan decrees, interrupted trade with America and other neutral states. The

\* Vide "State of Parties," Jan. 1, 1807,



monetary difficulties of the country were very great, foreign exchanges were unusually depressed, two prices were apparently on the eve of being established, and several landlords in England and Ireland demanded payment of their rents in gold, or in paper of equivalent value. A parliamentary report of the past year had ascribed the depreciation of paper money to the redundant issues of the Bank of England; and suggested that, after a time to be fixed, the Bank should be compelled to resume payments in specie. Ministers had sufficient influence to procure a vote of the house of commons negating the conclusion of the Bullion Committee; and the futile expedient was resorted to of passing an act to interdict the sale of guineas, for money or bank-notes, for less than their current denomination. Internal difficulties were augmented by the disturbed state of the manufacturing districts, arising out of the stagnation of industry, and the substitution of machinery for manual labour. The exasperation between the employers and employed rose to such a height, that assassinations were not unfrequent; and armed men, called *Luddites*, instigated by secret associations, went about in the night perpetrating daring outrages. These afflictive disorders continued through the spring and summer of the following year, and were not suppressed till after a severe example had been made of the ringleaders.

In the foreign transactions of the year there was nothing of remarkable interest. The birth of a son seemed to crown the utmost wishes of Napoleon Buonaparte, and afford an earnest of a long line of successors to the imperial dynasty. The war in the Peninsula he affected to treat with indifference, and represented the protraction of hostilities as a politic means of enfeebling the British power. In an address to the Legislative Body, June 16, he said, "When England shall be exhausted—when she shall at last have felt the evils which for twenty years she has with so much cruelty poured upon the Continent—when half her families shall be in mourning—then shall a peal of thunder put an end to the affairs of the Peninsula\*." *Diis aliter visum!*—it was otherwise decreed.

Upon the termination of the limitations on the Prince Regent, in 1812, an entire change of administration was expected, and that the prince would call to his councils those with whom he had through life been personally and politically connected. These expectations were entirely frustrated. In a letter to the duke of York the prince expressed himself satisfied with his present advisers, and further, that he "had no predilections to indulge, or resentments to gratify." Notwithstanding this ominous intimation, a correspondence was entered into with the Opposition, more, as it would seem, in satisfaction of an old obligation, than from choice, and the issue of which is stated in the Occurrences.

The whigs declining, as their principles bound them to do, a copartnership with Mr. Percival, that gentleman was continued at the head of the ministry; but shortly after he fell a victim to a revengeful assassin, who with more passion than reason had assumed the adjudication of his own supposed wrongs. Another and more favourable opening was thereby left for them, but with no better result; and in consequence of the failure of which the protracted administration of lord Liverpool was established in power. In this latter negociation lords Grey and Grenville appear to have claimed concessions from the sovereign, which, if not unimportant, were hardly warranted by their political position and the times. George III. had effectually shaken off the domination of the aristocracy, which could no

\* Annual Register, liii, 330.

longer, as in the reigns of his predecessors, dictate to the crown the choice of its servants. Moreover, a third party, as before noticed, had arisen, which had severed from the great families the auxiliary aid of the populace. Up to the present reign the *Outs* were always supported by the people; because, whether whigs or tories, while *out*, they generally professed popular sentiments, and in virtue of which the people mostly used to restore them to power, after a due course of trial and contrition. Now, however, the people were indifferent from which section of the aristocracy the sovereign selected his advisers—whether they were lords or commoners, or supple lawyers. The last, as most subservient to the court, were generally preferred in the time of George III. By the schism between the aristocracy and their former supporters the crown became independent of either, and had only to secure a parliamentary majority, which it was not difficult to command, with its vast increase of patronage, during the American and French wars.

Turning to the foreign transactions of 1812, the most important was the grand expedition of the French into Russia, upon the issue of which the attention of all Europe was fixed. In this campaign the French emperor appeared determined to dazzle by the splendour no less than the magnitude of his preparations. He left Paris in May, to join the armies. His progress was an intoxicating triumph; the inhabitants of the countries through which he passed, crowding his line of route, gazed upon him as a preternatural being. At Dresden he had convened an assemblage of sovereigns, many of them of his own creation. Seated in the palace of one of the capitals of Germany, surrounded by a gorgeous court, with his young imperial spouse at his side, he seemed more like a monarch receiving his vassals, than a soldier of fortune raised to an equality with kings. The adulation was excessive and universal. Meanwhile, his vast forces were directing their march from all points towards Poland. Austria, Prussia, Italy, the German confederation, all contributed their quotas towards this great enterprise. A human force of greater moral and physical power was perhaps never concentrated. Nothing had been apparently left to chance, yet everything was unforeseen. The gathering of a grand army—a march—a great battle—a victory—an armistice—and the submission of Alexander to his arbitrary fiat, were the anticipations of Napoleon. All turned out the contrary. The enemy fled before him like the horizon; and his mighty host was worn down by continual marches and obstinate battles: then followed the burning of Moscow and the frightful retreat through regions of frost and snow. With the resources of civilization in warfare Buonaparte proved himself more conversant than with those of despotism, aided by illimitable wastes, that afforded neither shelter nor sustenance to invaders.

After various attempts at an amicable settlement, England, in the course of 1812, became involved in war with the United States of America. Differences had first arisen relative to the Orders in Council, but these were revoked contemporaneously with the declaration of war by Congress. The remaining points of dispute referred to the right of search, claimed by England, not only for goods but British seamen on board neutral vessels. As the sovereignty of the seas depended on upholding these maritime rights, the British government was as strenuous in their enforcement as the French emperor of his continental system. A spirited land and naval war was the result, which was carried on, with various alternations of success and defeat, both at sea and in Canada.



The year 1813 was one of great events, signalised by the liberation of Germany from French rule. France never recovered her continental ascendancy, nor hardly an equality of power with her antagonists, after the overwhelming disasters of the Russian expedition. The campaign of Saxony was opened with a numerous army, consisting chiefly of young conscripts, who fought bravely, and even won the battles of Lützen and Bautzen, but unattended with any decisive issue. Russia and Prussia alone seemed almost a match for the French emperor. In addition to these, the crown-prince of Sweden was preparing to enter the lists against his old master; and fear, or immature preparations, alone kept back Buonaparte's father-in-law. As a preliminary to taking a part in the war, Austria offered her mediation, and an armistice was agreed to. It lasted upwards of two months, and terminated without an amicable arrangement. Proud and inflexible, Napoleon refused to give up Italy and Belgium, and retire within the boundaries of the Rhine. Hostilities recommenced, Austria joining the allies, who had now a vast numerical superiority; and, after some severe fighting, they succeeded in dislodging Napoleon from Dresden, who concentrated his forces in the neighbourhood of Leipsic. Here the great battle was fought, in October, which decided the fate of the French empire. The defeats of Buonaparte, like his victories, were on a grand scale. In the Russian campaign he had lost nearly half a million of men. Out of 280,000 he had led into Saxony, he returned to the Rhine with only about 70,000. Other disasters entered into this year's account. The duke of Wellington hung upon the French frontier, having by his victories driven them out of the whole of the Peninsula, with the exception of Catalonia. At Amsterdam and the Hague the old rallying cry of "Orange-Boven" was raised, and the liberation of Holland was secured by the arrival of a Russian and English force. In Italy the pope was restored, his holiness being conducted back to Rome in great pomp, amidst the joyful acclamations of the people. About the same time Ferdinand VII. was liberated from his confinement at Valençay, and permitted to return to Spain. All things seemed fast returning to their ancient course. Thrones and altars that had been subverted emerged from the revolutionary chaos, and were compared to the gradual reappearance of mountain or promontory after the Deluge.

The Dagon of France was struck down as by a miracle, and, exhausted by their immense losses, the French were anxious for peace. The flower of the population had been destroyed in the wars, and there was hardly a family that had not to mourn the loss of one or more of its members. In two years the tide of victory had rolled back its reflux course from the ruins of Moscow almost to the walls of Paris. The author of these great calamities, on reaching his capital, heard sounds to which his ears had been unaccustomed. There was not only a talk of peace, but of guarantees against the abuses of power. Buonaparte bore himself loftily, declaring that he alone was "the representative of the people," that he "was the state\*," and dissolved the Legislative Body. This arbitrary demeanour neutralised the zeal of all parties. It was the despotism of one man, and the thrones of his relatives, that were in jeopardy, and the nation would not rise to defend them. Habits of uncontrolled authority had gained so much upon Napoleon, that he was incapable of listening to any advice which was not in accordance with his own plans. He seemed stunned by the suddenness of his reverses, perplexed amidst the multiplicity of objects demanding his

\* Hazlitt's Life of Napoleon Buonaparte, iv, 144.

attention ; and, though he planned much and talked much, nothing was practically done ; and when the allies entered France, they found his means of defence no further advanced than when he crossed the Rhine on his retreat.

The almost expiring struggle of France began in January, 1814. From having been accustomed to send out her conquering legions to dictate laws to her neighbours in their capitals, she now saw her frontier passed by powerful armies, from those very states which she had compelled to purchase peace by submitting to her rule or co-operating in her plans. Of all the nations now leagued against her, there were none, England excepted, which had not acted in alliance with her. "A year ago," as Napoleon emphatically told the senate, "all Europe was marching with us ; now all Europe is marching against us." The campaign opened with little chance of successful resistance. Buonaparte left behind him 80,000 troops in Dresden, Hamburgh, and other German cities ; which, had they been withdrawn in time, would have almost doubled the number of his veterans. As it was, he was compelled to meet the allies with not more than 100,000 men, while the armies of Russians, Austrians, and Prussians, that had already penetrated into France, amounted to 250,000. In reserve was the crown-prince of Sweden at Cologne, and vast reinforcements on their way, along the high roads leading from Warsaw, Berlin, and Vienna. After joining the army, Buonaparte displayed his wonted activity and military science ; but the superiority of his opponents reduced him to the necessity of carrying on a partisan warfare. By the celerity of his movements and the vivacity of his attacks, he at first repulsed and disunited the allied armies ; but at other points they were successful ; and, trusting to their vast masses, they soon reunited, and resumed the offensive. While the fighting was going on, negociations were in progress at Chatillon, and terms were offered to the French emperor which he ought promptly to have accepted ; but, elated by a temporary advantage at Troyes, he rejected them, and, after a suspicious procrastination, proposed others that were inadmissible. Unable to oppose the invaders in front, he boldly dashed into their rear, hoping to draw the enemy from the capital by alarming the Austrians for their communications with the Rhine. A manœuvre which had often won Napoleon victories entirely failed under different circumstances. Leaving him to pursue his speculative movement behind them, the allies continued their march to Paris, which they entered by capitulation, March 31st. Important events speedily followed. Buonaparte was declared to have forfeited the throne by a decree of the French senate ; and the allied sovereigns issued a declaration, stating that they would no longer treat with him nor any of his family, but that they would "recognise and guarantee the constitution which France should adopt."

Upon the 30th of May the important Treaty of Paris was concluded, and exhibited an illustrious example of moderation and wisdom on the part of the conquerors. Nothing was taken from France that she ought to possess, except the man whose vaulting ambition had plunged her into her present humiliating abyss. There was no attempt at conquest, dismemberment, or dictatorial interference with the internal affairs of the French people. The Bourbons, as a matter of course, and the shortest way to a speedy settlement, were restored. Austria, Prussia, and Holland were the chief gainers ; these states were re-established in their former greatness : but England and Russia, whose persevering and united exertions had mainly contributed to the successful issue, reaped no advantage, save the



glory of the deliverance of Europe from military domination. Even Napoleon himself was magnanimously treated. In a less civilised era he would have been put to death, made a public spectacle of, or imprisoned: he was neither; he was suffered to retain his title of Emperor; to select the place of his retirement, which was given to him in full sovereignty; and a princely revenue, payable by France, was settled upon him and the members of his family.

Immediately peace was concluded the allied troops evacuated France. The germ of new troubles, however, soon appeared. In the twenty years of their exile the Bourbon princes seem to have slept; "they had learnt nothing and forgot nothing." The French people were changed; but they were unchangeable, and, with incredible weakness, they set about restoring superstitions that had become ridiculous, and forms of government that were detestable. All that had been done in their absence they affected to condemn, or consider the work of violence, usurpation, and injustice. Louis XVIII. claimed to be absolute by right of birth, and tendered to the French, as so many manumitted slaves, a Constitutional Charter, as his own free and voluntary offering. The clergy renewed their exactions and their mummeries; actresses were refused the rites of Christian burial; the processions and festivals of the church revived, and an outward sanctity sought to be established inimical to the healthy pastimes and recreations of the people. Intimations were thrown out about a restitution of emigrant property, and excommunication threatened against the purchasers of church lands and national domains, by which the titles of eight or ten millions of landed proprietors were placed in incertitude and jeopardy. It was, however, in the military class that sentiments existed most dangerous to the restored government; and the number of which order, since the peace, had been greatly augmented by the return of prisoners from England, the Italian army, and the garrisons of Germany. Almost without exception, the French soldiery retained a chivalrous veneration for the chief who had so often led them to victory, and under whose banner, notwithstanding recent disasters, they still hoped to retrieve their own honour and that of their country.

In this state of things Buonaparte landed in France, March 1st, 1815. A less able and determined adventurer would have failed at the threshold of the enterprise in which he had boldly embarked, without concert with any party in France, trusting entirely to the popular sentiment in his favour. He was not sought for by the great political leaders nor the middle ranks of the French people. They were dissatisfied with the Bourbons; but they had been not less so with the imperial government—its destructive wars and violations of the constitution by the extinction of the freedom of the press—of trial by jury—arbitrary imprisonments—compulsory exile—and other despotic acts. Even the French marshals—Ney, Massena, Soult, St. Cyr, Macdonald, and Victor, stood aloof from Napoleon, till carried away by the enthusiasm of the men they commanded. It was the soldiery and the multitude, as Buonaparte himself acknowledged, that brought him back to the Tuileries. "I am not alone (as has been pretended) the emperor of the soldiers; I am that of the peasants, of the plebeians of France\*." The young and enthusiastic colonel Labedoyere was the first to lead the way in the path of defection; marshal Ney, the "bravest of the brave," deserted by his troops, was the next to follow his example, and proclaim the "cause of the Bourbons for

\* Conversation with Benjamin Constant, Tuileries, April 24, 1815.

ever lost." After these accessions of strength, the only difficulty to surmount was the distance from Lyons to Paris:—"the tri-coloured flag flew from steeple to steeple, till it reached the towers of Notre Dame"—and the French emperor alighted at the Tuileries, three weeks after landing at Cannes, like a man dropped from the clouds, without the firing of a musket.

At this juncture, the allied congress, being assembled at Vienna, was busily occupied in completing the settlement of Europe. The sudden advent of Napoleon threw ridicule over their proceedings; and, like men interrupted over a joyous feast, they sullenly laid aside the compasses and maps on which they had been marking out the territorial allotments of the great European family. Not a moment's hesitation, however, was felt about the course to be pursued. Buonaparte at Paris, supported by the French army, endangered the quiet and safety of all crowned heads. His *fraternal* circular, in which he informed the allied sovereigns that France could not be happy without him, was unanswered—by some returned unopened. He was declared an outlaw; and Russia, England, Austria, and Prussia, entered into a solemn compact to raise 150,000 men each, and never lay down their arms till the integrity of the treaty of Paris had been re-established, the intruder ejected, and placed in a condition never again to disturb the repose of the world.

Upon the necessity of expelling Napoleon the unanimity was extraordinary. In England there was hardly any diversity of opinion, and the measures of ministers for the purpose were supported by vast majorities in both houses of parliament, and almost the unanimous voice of the nation\*. There were, however, a few individuals in each house, distinguished for talent and integrity, who were opposed to a renewal of the war, and the debate on the message of the Prince Regent of May 22nd was signalised by the opposition of sentiment on this point between lords Grey and Grenville, who had for ten years been politically united. The Grenvilles were as decidedly belligerent as in 1793, when they affirmed "that no nation ought to remain neutral †;" and with this party were included Mr. Grattan and Mr. Plunkett, the two leading members of the Irish representation.

The struggle was fortunately brief, though ardent. It lay between the French army and the European nations, and was terminated by the memorable battle of Waterloo, justly termed "glorious," because bravely and skilfully won, and securing victory's noblest trophy in a lasting peace.

Here we may pause: in the language of Montesquieu, "let us reflect upon so many wars undertaken, so much blood shed, so many people destroyed, so many great actions, so many triumphs, such political combinations, such consistency, such courage: what has been the *issue of it all*?" Europe might as well have remained quiet in 1790, continued to advance, as she was then doing, by peaceable arts in the career of improvement, and escaped the tempest of strife, carnage, and desolation of the intervening period. The resting point of France was determined by the Constituent Assembly of 1789: at that point she has now settled, and to which she has been always tending, like a body propelled from the centre, amidst the anarchy of her revolution, and the barbaric illusions of the empire. Her errors are lessons of wisdom, which exhaust political science. Power could not have been wielded by a more able chieftain than Napoleon; yet it intoxicated and destroyed him. Democracy could not have had more generous and virtuous advocates than Brissot, Vergniaud, Roland, Condorcet, Bailly, and Lavoie

\* Belsham's History of Great Britain, xiv. 173.

† Nicholl's Recollections of the Reign of George III., 152.



sier, yet it brought forth Demons, nurtured by popular ignorance, who destroyed them. The conclusion is, that man is neither an angel of light, nor a spirit of darkness; he can neither be governed by abstract philosophy nor a rod of iron, but demands a middle regimen, adapted to his middle nature in the chain of creation.

## EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

### A.D. 1803. RENEWAL OF THE WAR.—

Under very different aspects did the present year, compared with that which preceded it, commence. In January, 1802, the funds were high; a long peace proportioned to the ardour with which it had been desired was anticipated; and France, thrown open, became an eager object of curiosity, pleasure, and commercial enterprise. In January, 1803, there were strong forebodings of war; the stocks began rapidly to fall in price, and no commercial treaty had been concluded with France. Before the summer England grappled singly with her gigantic foe. The chess-board was instantly cleared; each combatant seemed eager to strike the first blow. England took the colonies and ships, and swept the seas of the enemy; France made prize of the electorate of Hanover, arrested all the English in her dominions, and shut her ports, and those of Belgium and Italy, against British commerce. Domestic events were rendered interesting by the continuance of the Bank Restriction Act, by executions for high treason in England, the suppression of a wild insurrection in Ireland, and the renewal of the volunteer associations to resist a menaced invasion.

Jan. 12. The Hindostan East India-man wrecked off the Reculvers, eighteen persons drowned; the cargo valued at 100,000*l*.

19. COW-POX INSTITUTION.—A meeting was held at the London Tavern, to consider the best means to be adopted for exterminating the small-pox, when it was resolved to establish a society, to be called "The Royal Jennerian Institution," and a committee of fifty-three gentlemen was appointed to carry the intention of the meeting into effect. It was stated that the present annual deaths in the metropolis from the small-pox were 3000, and in the whole empire 40,000; that the cooling practice of Sydenham, invented 150 years ago, had tended to lessen the devastation; but that the small-pox inoculation, though it had rendered the disease milder, had increased the mortality by spreading the contagion. Drs. Letsom, Hawes, and Denman, the duke of Bedford, and Messrs,

Wilberforce, Travers, Abernethy, &c., took a leading part in the proceedings.

Feb. 1. The French government definitively organised the protestant churches at Paris; a consistory of twelve members was appointed, and three national edifices granted for the celebration of protestant worship.

7. A bill brought in for the continuance of the Bank Restriction Act. The chancellor of the exchequer stated that, as twenty millions of specie had lately been drawn from the country for grain, the removal of the restriction might have the effect of throwing all the remaining bullion out of the country. It became law, and long continued such, lord King only objecting to the principle.

TRIAL OF COLONEL DESPARD.—On the 7th colonel Despard, and on the 9th twelve of his associates, were tried at the sessions, Horsemonger-lane, before a special commission, of which lord chief justice Ellenborough was the principal, on an indictment for high treason. The wild nature of this plot, concocted at an obscure public-house, and the inadequacy of its means, have already been noticed. (p. 632.) Despard was a man of a respectable family, whose mind had become affected from government having delayed to liquidate some alleged claim for his professional services. Upon the trial lord Nelson and Sir Alured Clarke bore testimony to his military deserts, while serving under them. After a trial which lasted eighteen hours the colonel was found guilty, and clearly proved to have been privy to designs for shooting the king, and taking possession of the Bank, the public offices, the prisons, and the two houses of parliament. On the 21st this unfortunate man, with six fellow-conspirators, was executed on the top of the new goal in Southwark. The colonel declined spiritual assistance, and conducted himself with great firmness. From the scaffold he addressed the spectators in an audible voice, expressing his conviction of the "final triumph of the principles of liberty and justice over despotism and delusion." The populace cheered, but it was only a momentary impulse; the platform fell, and the whole

were launched into eternity. After hanging half an hour they were cut down, and the ceremony of decapitation performed. There were some hooting and hissing when the colonel's head was held up. He was interred in the cemetery belonging to the parish of St. Faith, on the south side of St. Paul's cathedral.

12. A great mortality at Paris, in consequence of catarrhal fever (influenza); the interments officially reported to amount to 400 per day. It was ascribed by medical men to sudden changes in the temperature of the atmosphere.

16. A royal message delivered to the House of Commons on the pecuniary embarrassment of the prince of Wales; it terminated in granting 60,000*l.* a-year to the prince for three years and a half.

21. Jean Peltier, a French journalist and advocate of the Bourbons, tried before lord Ellenborough, at the suit of the crown, for a libel on Buonaparte. He was found guilty, though eloquently defended by Mr. James Mackintosh.

26. A proposal made at the instance of Buonaparte, at Warsaw, to the Bourbon princes, to relinquish their claims to the throne of France, but they all refused.

*Mar. 1.* Military college of High Wycomb projected.

The Caledonian canal begun.

8. A royal message delivered to parliament, which was considered as the prelude to war. It informed the houses of considerable preparations being in a state of progress in the ports of France and Holland, and that his majesty had deemed it expedient in consequence to adopt additional measures of precaution. An address was voted, and an addition of 10,000 seamen.

Died in his 77th year, unmarried, Francis the third duke of Bridgewater. He was immensely rich; his return to the income-tax was 110,000*l.* a-year, the greater part acquired in pursuits not more profitable to himself than his country. His canal property, yielding at his death from 50,000*l.* to 80,000*l.* (*Ann. Reg.* xlv. 500) a-year, he left to earl Gower.

13. An extraordinary scene at the Tuileries between the first consul and lord Whitworth, the English ambassador. Buonaparte, in the presence of a numerous court, and in vehement terms, accused England of not fulfilling the treaty of Amiens, in the non-evacuation of Malta. War he threatened as the only alternative of continued refusal.

21. Being the anniversary of the battle of Alexandria, a piece of Turkish ordnance taken by the French, but re-taken by the English, was placed on an elegant carriage in St. James's Park.

*April 6.* Duel at Chalk-farm between captain Macnamara, of the navy, and colonel Montgomery, a much esteemed man of fashion; the latter was killed, and the former wounded: it arose about the quarreling of their dogs.

MINISTERIAL NEGOTIATIONS.—An opinion had been gaining ground that good intentions and mediocrity, rather than pre-eminence in talents, were the qualifications most desirable in the ministers of a great country. This was the strength of the Addington ministry, none of whose members were remarkable for shining abilities, nor derived peculiar advantages from birth, title, or territorial possessions. It was what would now be termed a *middle-class* government, from which the great hereditary leaders of parties stood aloof, and by whom it was tolerated, rather from the difficulty of agreeing among themselves, than confided in or supported. Unconnected with the ministers were three descriptions of public men, headed by Mr. Fox, lord Grenville, and Mr. Pitt, by the union of whom the administration could at any moment be overthrown. Mr. Pitt's section was the most powerful and least hostile, and it was with them the minister sought to strengthen himself, by opening in the course of April a negotiation. It was soon however discovered that an insuperable obstacle or misunderstanding existed. The minister sought Mr. Pitt as an auxiliary, but Mr. Pitt sought the dissolution of the ministry, and that upon him should devolve the sole authority of forming another. Upon this discovery the negotiation of course terminated, and the only accession of strength Mr. Addington secured was in the incorporation of Mr. Tierney (made treasurer of the navy) and Mr. Hobhouse, who, to the surprise of their former friends, and very much to the mortification of the Pittites, joined the ministerial ranks. In the upper house Mr. Addington was weaker than in the lower; here his chief strength was in the lord chancellor and chief justice Ellenborough, till they were reinforced by the elevation of lord Hawkesbury to the peerage. Among other ministerial changes in the summer was the appointment of Charles Yorke to be secretary of state in the room of lord Pelham, who succeeded the late earl of Liverpool in the chancellorship of the duchy of Lancaster.

*May 5.* An extraordinary forgery was practised in the city—a note, purporting to be from lord Hawkesbury, addressed to the lord mayor, acquainting him that the differences between this country and France were amicably adjusted: in consequence of this communication the stocks rose from 63 to 71. The stock exchange com-



mittee declared all bargains of that day void.

11. The first consul driving a phaeton with four horses in hand was thrown from his seat in the park near St. Cloud. The shock was severe, but no serious injury was sustained. When he recovered he said "it was best for people to confine themselves to their own occupations."

12. Lord Whitworth left Paris: he landed at Dover on the 20th, where he met general Andreossi, minister to the court of London, about to embark for France.

17. An Order of Council appeared in the *Gazette*, dated the 16th (the morning of the French ambassador's departure), directing that general reprisals be granted against the ships, goods and subjects of the French republic. Also a proclamation directing an embargo to be laid on all ships in our ports belonging to the French or Batavian republics. A bounty of 5*l.* per man offered for every seaman entering the fleet.

18. DECLARATION OF WAR.—The king issued a declaration of this date (*Ann. Reg.* xlv. 734) setting forth the grounds of the war against France. It began with contrasting the liberal commercial spirit of England with that of France, connected with which it mentioned the fact of persons being sent from France to reside in British ports in the capacity of consuls when no commercial treaty between the two countries existed, and who occupied themselves in taking soundings and plans of our harbours and other places of the kingdom. The military occupation of Holland, the violation of the independence of Switzerland, and the territorial annexations of France in Italy, are commented upon. Notice is then taken of the principle assumed by France that England has no right to interfere with any proceeding of the French that is not an infringement of the treaty of Amiens, and the incompatibility of such a principle with existing European treaties. The gist of the dispute, Malta, is next brought on the tapis; and the surrender of the island according to treaty is alleged to have become impossible by France and Spain having destroyed the independence of the order of St. John of Jerusalem. Intimations are then thrown out that France had, by the mission of general Sebastiani to the East, manifested designs, contrary to the treaty of Amiens, of violating the integrity of the Turkish empire by a fresh attack upon Egypt. Buonaparte's attempts to interfere with the liberty of the press in England, the indignities he had offered to our ambassador, and his affirmation "that Britain cannot singly contend against France," conclude this important state paper. Except his

interference with the English press, and sending spies into the country, the grounds of hostilities appear to have been more continental than insular. They concerned Austria and Prussia more than England. It was the personal demeanour of the first consul that mainly enlisted the national spirit in favour of hostilities. He was obviously intoxicated by his remarkable successes and elevation. His caprice and arrogance were offensive to the pride and good sense of the nation, and above all, his gasconade that England could not singly contend against him was sufficient to render the war popular, touching a chord that vibrated through all classes of Englishmen.

22. On the ground that two French ships had been captured prior to a declaration of war, Buonaparte issued a decree for the detention of all the English, from the age of 18 to 60, at present in France. About four months after the number of persons detained under this infringement of international law amounted in France to 11,000, and in Holland to 1300.

23. DEBATE ON THE RENEWAL OF THE WAR.—This subject was discussed in both houses on motions for addresses to the king. Doubts were expressed by some members of the justice, and by others of the expediency, of going to war, at least without further attempts at conciliation, but the predominant feeling was strongly in favour of resisting, by open hostilities, the haughty and encroaching spirit of France. In the commons, Mr. Grey moved an amendment which, while it assured his majesty of their support in the war, expressed *disapprobation of the conduct of the ministers*. It was supported by Fox and Whitbread, and opposed by Pitt, Windham, Canning, Lascelles, Sir R. Peel, and Serjeant Best. Amendment rejected by 398 to 67. In the lords the unanimity was still greater; for an amendment moved by lord King to omit the words which so decidedly imputed to France the guilt of breaking the treaties was negatived by 142 to 10. The minority of ten were, the dukes of Bedford and Leinster, the earls of Derby, Cowper, Besborough, Thanet, Albemarle, Stanhope, Guildford, and lord King.

26. At the anniversary of the charity children of the metropolis upwards of 7000 attended St. Paul's.

28. The king, as elector of Hanover, issued a proclamation, stating that he abided by the treaty of Luneville, in respect of his German states, and that, in quality of elector of Hanover, he would take no part in the war.

MEASUREMENT OF A DEGREE.—M. Swanberg and three other Swedish astronomers measured a degree of the meridian, and found it to be 57,209 toises. This is 196

toises less than the degree measured by Maupertuis and others in Lapland in 1736. If the Swedish measurement be correct, it shows the figure of the earth deviates less from a sphere than was inferred from the measurement of the French mathematicians.

June 3. The electorate of Hanover surrendered by capitulation to the French under general Mortier; valuable magazines fell into the hands of the enemy, who also fleeced the country by the levy of contributions. Mortier took up his abode in the electoral palace, on which George III. had just expended 50,000*l.* for the better accommodation of the duke of Cambridge. This acquisition giving the command of the Elbe and the Weser to the French, these rivers were closed against English commerce; and subsequently, in retaliation, blockaded by a British squadron.

7. The English ambassador left Holland, the Dutch being unable to preserve a neutrality in the war. An order issued to arrest all the English in the Batavian territories.

13. Mr. Addington brought forward the BUDGET, which included upwards of twelve millions of war-taxes. Among the ways and means was a property-tax, so called, though differing from the former income-tax only in the proportion now demanded being less, and no particular disclosure being required in incomes from land and the interest of money.

18. Plan of an army of reserve brought forward in the house of commons, to consist of 50,000 men, being 34,000 for England, 10,000 for Ireland, and 6000 for Scotland. They were to be raised by ballot, and not to serve out of the United Kingdom. As another means of internal defence, a bill passed into a law for raising a levy *en masse* in case of invasion.

21. English colonial produce and merchandise prohibited in France.

The Dutch legislative body agreed to place their army under a French commander.

29. The livery of London assembled in common hall, after expressing their readiness to support the government in a "vigorous prosecution of the contest," passed resolutions deprecating a tax on income.

30. The court of common council resolved to raise 800 men for the service of government.

Died at Florence the King of Etruria, the first of the royal creation of Buonaparte.

During the preceding and present month most of the printing-presses in Britain were employed by the partisans of ministers in printing exaggerated representations of the life and conduct of the first consul, for the purpose of exciting a national war-

spirit. Hundreds of tracts, songs, pretended anecdotes, and absurd fables were thus distributed in millions of sheets, which inflamed the passions of the people and answered the misleading purposes of the fabricators. The reckless proceedings of Buonaparte afforded some ground for these attacks, but many of them were libels drawn from that copious repository of eastern stories, colonel sir Robert Wilson's "Narrative of the British Expedition to Egypt."

July 5. A horde of wolves committed the most terrible ravages in the department of Gers. The communes Aignau, Plaisance, and Ladivege suffered in a most extraordinary degree.

8. Robert Astlett, assistant-cashier of the Bank of England, indicted at the Old Bailey for embezzling exchequer bills: he was acquitted on a point of law, the bills having been informally signed. The exchequer bills purloined amounted to 322,000*l.*, of which 91,000*l.* that had been pawned was redeemed by the Bank for 70,000*l.*

9. The roof of the tower in the centre of Westminster-abbey caught fire and fell in, damaging the choir.

20. Great meeting at Lloyd's for promoting a subscription for the war, Brook Watson in the chair.

21. A correspondence between Mr. Addington and the prince of Wales, the latter soliciting in the present crisis a more conspicuous rank than colonel. The king refused the application, saying that his royal highness would have sufficient opportunity for distinguishing himself at the head of his regiment.

The house of commons voted a grant of 60,000*l.* and a pension of 16,000*l.* to the prince of Orange in compensation for the loss of the Texel fleet, which had been taken possession of by the English in his name.

23. INSURRECTION IN DUBLIN.—While measures were being taken for defending the country against invasion, a new insurrection broke out in Ireland, which occasioned a considerable but short-lived alarm. It originated with a youthful enthusiast of considerable parts, named Emmet, brother to a gentleman who had been deeply implicated in the seditious proceedings of 1798, and had in consequence been expatriated. This rash attempt to disturb the public tranquillity was made upon the 23rd, when a crowd of country people entered the metropolis, and marched through some of the principal streets, armed with pikes and fire-arms; and, actuated by the feelings of desperadoes, they unfortunately met the carriage of lord Kilwarden, chief justice of Ireland, who, accompanied by



his daughter and nephew, was proceeding to the castle. The ruffians immediately seized the horses, dragged the venerable judge and Mr. Wolfe from the carriage, and butchered them in a barbarous manner. Being attacked in their turn by about 120 soldiers, some of them were killed, others seized, and this insurrectionary riot suppressed. Emmet, the leader, and others afterwards suffered death for their temerity.

26. Great meeting of merchants, bankers, and others, in the Royal-exchange; 5000 persons present, who agreed to a declaration expressive of their determination to "stand or fall with their king and country," Jacob Bosanquet in the chair; seconded by the secretary of the East India Company. "God save the king," and "Rule Britannia," being called for, and nine cheers given, the meeting dissolved.

Aug. 2. A meeting of the freeholders of Middlesex took place at Hackney, to consider of a loyal address: it was carried unanimously, and, on the motion of sir W. Curtis, it was agreed that only one of the county members (Mr. Byng) should accompany the sheriffs in presenting the address, sir F. Burdett having given offence by some observations tending to discourage the national enthusiasm in defence of the kingdom.

3. Lady Munro, of Fowlis, and her three servants drowned while bathing in the bay of Cromartie.

12. Parliament prorogued by the king, who in his way to the house was received with the most ardent acclamations by the populace.

The duke of Clarence enrolled himself as a private in the Teddington volunteers.—*Ann. Reg.* xlv. 422.

20. The drought greater than had been known since 1762. At Pevensy a flock of 300 sheep, being after a long thirst driven to a pond, drank so immoderately that upwards of 100 of them died almost immediately.

23. The distress occasioned in Hamburg by the blockade of the Elbe became every day more apparent. Upwards of thirty suicides were committed in the space of a week.—*Ann. Reg.* xlv. 423.

Sept. 2. Astley's amphitheatre burnt; damages 30,000*l.*, insured only for 1700*l.*

3. John Hatfield, the notorious swindler and seducer (p. 632), executed at Carlisle for forgery. He was originally a rider to a wholesale linen-draper, and in early life had contrived to marry a natural daughter of lord Robert Manners, with whom he got 1500*l.* Deception formed so rooted a part of the nature of this impostor that he threw away many opportunities of settling himself comfortably in life from an uncon-

trollable addiction to insidious and crooked ways.

15. A man who had leaped from the three bridges into the Thames in three quarters of an hour, for a wager, was drowned in attempting to repeat the experiment. When the body was found, it appeared that, having gone down with his arms in a horizontal, instead of a perpendicular position, they were dislocated by the resistance of the water.

18. Robert Emmet, tried at Dublin, and found guilty of high treason, was executed the day following. Emmet was a young Irish barrister, of oratorical talent, but of an enthusiastic temperament.

23. BATTLE OF ASSYE in the East Indies, in which major-general Arthur Wellesley completely defeated the combined Mahratta forces commanded by Scindiah Holkar and the rajah of Berar. It was a well-contested action, in which the English suffered considerably, and the Mahrattas had 1200 men killed and wounded.

Oct. 3. John Silvester elected recorder of London, and Newman Knowlys common sergeant; the recorder's salary was raised from 600*l.* to 1000*l.* per annum.

19. A public fast-day which was observed in the metropolis with the utmost decorum. The volunteer corps of London and Westminster assembled at an early hour, and proceeded to their several places of worship, "where they received (*Ann. Reg.* xlv. 442) the instruction of appropriate sermons, and the clergy displayed on the occasion a most laudable zeal to strengthen and improve those generous and manly sentiments with which their audiences were inspired."

26. The volunteer corps of London were reviewed by the king in Hyde-park; Elfi Bey, the French prince, and general Dumouriez were present; the number of spectators was estimated at 200,000; the corps reviewed amounted to 12,401, cavalry and infantry.

28. A grand review of the Westminster, Lambeth, and Southwark volunteer corps in Hyde-park, consisting of 14,676 men, cavalry and infantry: they gave great satisfaction to the king, who expressed his approbation through the commander-in-chief. The number reviewed on both days was 27,077; the total number of volunteers enrolled in the metropolis and out-parishes was 46,000.

Nov. 2. Leclerc the French commander in St. Domingo died, and was succeeded by Rochambeau. The war in that island had been waged with horrid cruelties on both sides.

22. Parliament opened by the king, when the usual addresses were agreed to without opposition. The chief business previous to

the recess was the continuing the suspension of the habeas corpus act, and the existence of martial law in Ireland, and for granting certain exemptions from assessed taxes to volunteers in England.

James Mackintosh, esq., appointed recorder of Bombay, and in the month following received the honour of knighthood.

30. Fort Dauphin having been taken by the English, the French force, commanded by Rochambeau, surrendered, by which the principal part of St. Domingo fell into the hands of the negroes, commanded by their black chiefs Dessalines, Christophe, and Clervaux.

By the falling of a cliff near Harwich the skeleton of an enormous animal, thirty feet long, was found, supposed to be the mammoth; one of the molar teeth weighed seven pounds.

*Dec.* Peace concluded in India with the rajah of Berar, and Scindiah, the Mahratta chief.

**INVASION OF ENGLAND.**—The grand project of Buonaparte was a descent on Britain; for which purpose he collected a vast flotilla of gun-boats, and assembled an army ready to cross the Channel the first favourable opportunity. His bombastic threats had the effect of rousing the national spirit. Volunteer and yeomanry corps were formed in every part of the kingdom, and the number of this description of force returned was 379,945 men.

**SALE OF LOUISIANA.**—In the course of the year the French government assigned their late acquisition of Louisiana to the United States of America for three millions of dollars, by which the States acquired 450,000 square miles of territory, augmenting their territorial area to 1,680,000 square miles. It was an advantageous purchase, consolidating their dominion, removing from them a restless neighbour, and a source of dispute with Spain, which had begun about the warehousing of American goods in New Orleans.

**ANNUAL OBITUARY.**—At Paris, Madame Clarion, 81, a once popular French actress, and the friend of Marmontel. JohnThoresby, the celebrated topographical writer. At Paris, M. de la Harpe, 85, author of "An Ancient and Modern Course of Literature." At Hamburgh, Klopstock, 79, the celebrated German poet. Sir William Hamilton thirty-six years British minister at Naples, and distinguished by his antiquarian researches. Henry Swinburne, a celebrated traveller. William Woodfall, 58, a well-known journalist, and the first who undertook and succeeded in publishing the parliamentary debates on the morning following the proceedings. John Hoole, 76, the translator of Tasso. James Beattie, LL.D., 68, poet and moral philosopher. Ralph Grif-

fiths, LL.D., 83, the founder of the "Monthly Review," which he conducted for 54 years. Joseph Ritson, a conveyancer of Gray's-inn, and well known for his publications and criticisms on the old English ballads.

**A. D. 1804.—PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS.**—The war did not stop the progress of works of national utility. The West India docks, occupying a surface of thirty acres, were now completed, and warehouses erected for the safe deposit of merchandise unexposed to fire or plunder, as no lights were suffered, nor any person allowed to remain within the walls after dark. The excavation of the dock for loading, occupying twenty-four acres, was proceeding with spirit. The profits on this undertaking were already such as to warrant a dividend of ten per cent. to the subscribers. The London docks forming in Wapping for the accommodation of the whole trade of the port (East and West India shipping excepted) were in an advanced state, as well as immense warehouses for the bonding of goods. The East India dock was only just commenced. The Commercial-road, beginning at the north-west corner of the West India dock, and coming out at Whitechapel near Aldgate, was nearly paved and finished: the tolls received on this spacious thoroughfare averaged from 70% to 80% weekly, and were daily increasing. The Grand Junction canal before noticed was another great commercial undertaking in a forward state. The sum subscribed for this concern was 1,350,000*l.*; its progress was rather impeded by the drought of the preceding summer, but it was expected to be finished by the end of the year.

**Jan. 13. CURIOUS CASE.**—Francis Smith, officer of excise, was tried at the Old Bailey for wilful murder. It seems the neighbourhood of Hammersmith had been alarmed by what was supposed to be a ghost. The prisoner went out with a loaded gun, with intent to apprehend the person who personated the ghost; he met the deceased, who was dressed in white, and immediately discharged his gun and killed him. Chief Baron Macdonald, Mr. Justice Rooke, and Mr. Justice Lawrence, were unanimously of opinion that the facts amounted to the crime of murder; for the person who represented the ghost was only guilty of a misdemeanor, and no one would have had a right to have killed him even if he could not otherwise have been taken. The jury brought in a verdict of manslaughter, but the Court said they could not receive that verdict; if the jury believed the witnesses, the prisoner was guilty of murder; if they did not believe them, they must acquit. Upon this they found a verdict of guilty. Sentence of



death was pronounced, but the prisoner was pardoned on condition of a year's imprisonment.

28. Some workmen digging to repair the pipes in Leadenhall-street discovered a beautiful tessellated pavement, with a figure of Bacchus, sitting on a tiger at full speed, holding in his left hand a Thyrsis dressed with ivy, and in his right a goblet.

*Feb. 5. DEATH OF JOSEPH PRIESTLEY, LL.D., F.R.S.*—This eminent divine and philosopher was born in the neighbourhood of Leeds, where he was for six years pastor of the Unitarian congregation of that town. Subsequently he formed part of the domestic establishment of the earl of Shelburne, where he continued those curious researches in pneumatic chemistry by which he acquired great celebrity, and earned the prize of Copley's gold medal. Dr. Priestley entered warmly into the theological, political, and metaphysical questions that agitated his contemporaries. He became an early convert to Dr. Hartley's theory, that refers all the phenomena of the intellectual powers to physical sensations. His attacks on the Established Church, and his warm admiration of the first outbreak of the French revolution, made him during this heated period an object of persecution, and he severely suffered in the Birmingham riots of 1789. The compensation he received was inadequate to his losses, and, finding himself the victim of party animosity, he withdrew to America, as a more tranquil asylum. Even here he felt the effects of intolerance, until Mr. Jefferson became president, when he had the good fortune to outlive all disquiet on account of his Socinian tenets. He expired at Northumberland, in Pennsylvania, in his 71st year. He was an indefatigable writer and controversialist; and his chief works are enumerated among the "Men of Letters" of this period.

14. A bulletin issued at St. James's intimated the return of the king's mental malady. That the attack was not severe might be inferred from the chancellor of the exchequer's declaration on the 29th, that "there was no necessary suspension of the royal function," and by that of the lord chancellor on March 14th, that "the lord's commissioners were warranted in expressing the royal assent to several bills which had already passed both houses of parliament." It was May, however, before the king was in a state fit for public business, or could enjoy the comforts of his domestic circle.

16. Robert Astlett, the bank-cashier (*vide* July 8, 1803), who had been tried on a second indictment, and on whose case the opinion of the judges had been taken,

was this day adjudged guilty; and on the Monday following sentenced to death. He was subsequently respited during the royal pleasure.

*PLOTS AGAINST THE FIRST CONSUL.*—In the course of this month a plot was discovered at Paris for the assassination of Buonaparte, and the overthrow of the consular government. The principals in this conspiracy were general Pichegru; Georges, an enthusiastic loyalist, and Lajolais, a confidant of general Moreau. How far Moreau was privy to the scheme does not appear, further than that his house had long been the rendezvous of the disaffected, and that he had held secret interviews with Pichegru on the Boulevards since his return to Paris. Pending the trials Pichegru was found strangled in prison; Georges and some of his accomplices were publicly executed; Moreau was sentenced to two years' imprisonment, which were commuted for banishment to America. Buonaparte pardoned Riviere and the marquis Polignac; the last at the instance of his wife. These proceedings were not terminated till the end of July. During their progress captain Wright was shipwrecked on the French coast, and being brought to Paris was recognised as the same who had landed Georges and the other conspirators from England in Normandy. Wright was examined before the court, but declined answering any questions, as it might "implicate his majesty's ministers." He was detained as a prisoner of war in the temple till the end of 1805, when he put an end to his existence after reading an account (as alleged) of the capitulation of the Austrian general Mack at Ulm.

*Mar. 3.* Rev. Lockhart Gordon and Loudon Gordon tried at Oxford for the abduction of Mrs. Lee from her house in Bolton-row, Piccadilly. Judge Lawrence stopped the trial, as it appeared that, though Mrs. Lee at first resisted, she subsequently acquiesced in the forcible carrying away, and actually threw a charm of camphor, which she wore against the seductions of pleasure, out of the chaise window. The affair made much noise, the lady being rich, and a natural daughter of lord Le Despencer.

10. Died, in his 29th year, Thomas Pitt, the second lord Camelford. He was shot by captain Best in a duel on the 7th instant, near Holland-house. His lordship, whose character was eccentric, acknowledged himself the aggressor; but a coroner's jury brought in a verdict of "wilful murder" against Best, who was reputed a fatal marksman, and had, a short time before, killed a man by the accidental discharge of a pistol.

EXECUTION OF THE DUKE D'ENGHIEN.  
2 U 2

—This prince, eldest son of the duke of Bourbon, was seized, under an order of Buonaparte, at Ettenheim, in the neutral territory of Baden, and carried the same day to the citadel of Strasburgh, where he remained till the 18th. On the 20th the duke arrived at Paris under a guard of gendarmes, and, after waiting some hours at the barrier, was driven to Vincennes. A military commission appointed to try him met the same evening in the castle. The charges against the prince were, the serving in the armies of the emigrants against France; second, of being in the pay of England; and third, of being privy to the conspiracy of Georges. The last was the only criminal charge, and it was not proved: it was Pichegru, and not the prince, who had been mistakenly described as having been seen in company with the conspirators in Paris. Notwithstanding, the prince was found guilty. His sentence was carried into immediate execution; he was shot in the castle-ditch at Vincennes, about six in the morning of the 21st. It was a foul atrocity in all the parties concerned; for, whatever might be the plots against the life of the first consul, they cannot be allowed, on any sound principles of justice, to be pleaded in defence of the judicial assassination of the innocent. The violent seizure of the accused on neutral ground—the composition of the military tribunal before which he was arraigned—the hurried and midnight proceedings, and the nocturnal execution—show that it was determined to reach a retaliatory victim, through every barrier of international law, justice, and humanity. Before his death the prince sought an interview with Buonaparte, which was refused; he wrote a letter to the first consul, which was not delivered till after the catastrophe. The prince was only thirty-two years of age, which, with his reputation for courage and talents, heightened the interest felt in his fate.

*Apr. 16.* Mr. Pitt made a motion, censuring the naval administration of the country; it was negatived by 201 to 130.

18. A solemn requiem performed in the French chapel, Portman-square, for the late duke d'Enghien; present, many of the English nobility; and of the French, monsieur and the dukes of Berri and Orleans. The prince of Condé, grandfather of the late duke, was unable to attend.

23. On a motion by Mr. Fox for the appointment of a committee to revise the ministerial bills for the defence of the country, Mr. Pitt made a violent attack on ministers. Motion negatived by 256 to 204.

29. Massacre of the whites in Hayti by the blacks under Dessalines.

30. Mr. Addington brought forward the budget, in which the necessary supplies were stated at upwards of thirty-six millions for Britain only. Additions to the war-taxes were proposed, a loan of ten millions, and a vote of credit for two millions and a half.

According to a recent enumeration, it appeared that in the metropolis there are 346 places of public worship: namely, 112 parish churches, 58 licensed chapels and chapels of ease—19 for foreign protestants, 12 for Roman catholics; 133 meeting-houses and methodists' chapels of various sects dissenting from the church, 6 quakers' meeting-houses, and 6 synagogues.

*May 1.* FIRST CONSUL MADE EMPEROR.—Addresses having been previously procured from the armies, municipalities, and other bodies, a motion was made by M. Cuzeix in the tribunate (the body in which laws originate) for conferring on Napoleon Buonaparte the rank of emperor, with hereditary succession in his family according to the law of primogeniture. The single vote of Carnot formed the only opposition to this regal issue of the republican convulsions. The decree of the tribunate was adopted by the senate; and power given to Buonaparte, if he had no male issue, to adopt an heir from the children of his brothers. The titles of prince, princess, and imperial highness, were conferred on all members of the Buonaparte family. A number of generals were raised to the rank of marshals, and letters sent to the bishops, dictating a religious ceremony for the occasion.

5. Surinam capitulated to the British.

7. Mr. Pitt had an interview with the king, when he received authority to form a new administration, limited only on two points: first, that the catholic question should not be revived; and next, that Mr. Fox should be excluded from his arrangements.

9, 10, 11. Doubts existing in the public mind as to the real state of the king's health, his majesty, on each of these days, drove through the principal streets of London and Westminster, attended by the queen and princesses.

12. ADDINGTON MINISTRY DISSOLVED.—Mr. Pitt was this day gazetted first lord of the treasury and chancellor of the exchequer. The Addington ministry never possessed inherent strength; it was considered a temporary expedient till the two leading parties of which its predecessors were composed should either reconcile their differences with the court or between themselves. Mr. Pitt, who had taken an active part in its formation, could not, with propriety, appear as an oppositionist; and he stood apart from the Grenvilles, who



went out with him, in supporting the peace and other measures of the late premier. The accumulating difficulties of the government, however, demanded a more efficient and experienced administration; and Mr. Pitt, whose popularity had increased during his retirement, certainly united, more than any other person, the suffrages of the people in his favour. His elevation, notwithstanding, was accompanied with some considerable loss of reputation for political good faith and inflexibility of principle. Catholic emancipation was abandoned; and the "old" opposition, as it was termed, under Mr. Fox, by whose aid Mr. Pitt had recovered the helm, was thrown overboard. The Grenvilles, or "new" opposition, were consistent; they refused to form part of the ministry unless Mr. Fox was included (*Ann. Reg.*, xlv. 124). Not having the co-operation of either the old or new opposition, Mr. Pitt made up his staff out of the Addingtons and his own devoted adherents. Of Mr. Addington's administration, the following cabinet ministers retained their situations in that formed by Mr. Pitt:—

Duke of Portland, *President of the Council.*

Lord Eldon, *Lord Chancellor.*

Earl of Westmorland, *Lord Privy Seal.*

Earl of Chatham, *Master-General of the Ordnance.*

Lord Castlereagh, *President of the Board of Control.*

Lord Hawkesbury, secretary for foreign affairs under the late ministry, became home secretary under Mr. Pitt's. The new arrangements, therefore, stood as follow:—

Mr. Pitt, *Premier.*

Lord Melville, *First Lord of the Admiralty.*

Lord Harrowby, *Secretary for Foreign Affairs.*

Earl Camden, *Secretary for the Colonies.*

Lord Mulgrave, *Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.*

Thus a majority of the late cabinet ministers who were retained formed a majority of Mr. Pitt's administration. In the government of Ireland there was no change, except of the chief secretary, Mr. Wickham, who, retiring, was succeeded by sir Evan Nepean. In the public offices the changes were William Dundas, secretary at war, *vice* Mr. Bragge; George Canning, treasurer of the navy, *vice* Mr. Tierney; George Rose and lord Charles Somerset, joint paymasters of the forces, *vice* Mr. Steele and Hiley Addington; duke of Montrose, postmaster-general, *vice* lord Auckland; William Huskisson and William Sturges Bourne, secretaries of the

treasury, *vice* Vansittart and Sargent. The new ministry was a triumph of the king, who, by his immovability on this as on a former occasion, defeated every attempt of the political leaders, singly or combined, to force upon him either men or measures he disliked. From ambition, or other motive; Mr. Pitt succumbed to the prejudices of the sovereign in respect of the catholics. As respects Mr. Fox, probably the minister made a less reluctant sacrifice to royal antipathies, as he may have entertained, as well as the monarch, from long political rivalry with that gentleman, insuperable objections to being included with him in the same cabinet.

20. Buonaparte proclaimed emperor of the French. Thus terminated the French republic under all its phases. It had lasted 4136 days, only one day less than the duration of the English commonwealth from the death of Charles I.

22. A new coinage of five-shilling dollars and half-guineas issued.

25. A public fast-day. "The sober silence of the streets," says the *Annual Register*, "was only interrupted by the bells of the parish-churches calling the inhabitants to prayers."

26. William Cobbett, the editor of the "Political Register," was tried in the court of King's Bench for a libel on the earl of Hardwicke, lord Redesdale, and others of the Irish government, and found guilty.

June 4. Vaccine inoculation introduced into Persia with great success.

6. Louis XVIII. protests against the assumption of the imperial dignity by Buonaparte as an usurpation.

16. Four journeyman bootmakers of the metropolis, out of 1010, committed to hard labour for combining against their masters.

20. Mr. Western introduced into the commons a bill for the alteration of the corn-laws: exportation to be allowed when the price of wheat was at or below 48s. per quarter of eight bushels; and importation when the price was 63s., but not under: the average prices to be taken from the maritime districts of England and Scotland.

27. The king held a grand levee, the first since his indisposition.

28. Mr. Wilberforce's bill for the abolition of the slave-trade, after a limited time, read a third time. It was supported by Pitt and Fox, but was thrown out in the lords.

General Hamilton killed in a duel at New York with Aaron Burr, the vice-president. It arose out of political differences; and the fatal result caused deep

regret in America, Hamilton being hardly less respected than the great Washington.

July 11. At Bedford sessions an overseer was sentenced to two months' imprisonment, and fined 20*l.*, for turning out his female servant while suffering the pains of labour.

12. William Draper Best, serjeant-at-law, was indicted for an assault with intent, &c., on Rebecca, the wife of James Minifie, a person of reduced circumstances, and client of the defendant. The alleged assault took place in the chambers of the learned counsel; but it appearing that the plaintiffs had subsequently tried to borrow 100*l.* of Mr. Best, who denied ever having touched the person of Mrs. Minifie, lord Ellenborough considered it a conspiracy to extort money, and the jury gave a verdict of "not guilty."

13. Three men stood in the pillory in Smithfield, for a conspiracy in fraudulently assuming the characters of merchants, and mutually drawing bills on each other, which they got discounted. After standing the usual time they were carried back to Newgate, there to be imprisoned twelve months.

23. Georges, and eleven of his fellow-conspirators, guillotined at Paris.

31. Parliament prorogued by the king.

Aug. 9. The poll for Middlesex declared; Mr. Mainwaring 2828, and Sir Francis Burdett 2823, being a majority of five for the successful candidate. A subscription of 5225*l.* had been raised to defray the election expenses of Mainwaring, but he had declined the contest unless raised to 10,000*l.*

Intelligence having been received that commodore Dance, with the homeward-bound East India fleet, had gallantly repulsed an attack of the French admiral Linois, the directors voted rewards to the amount of 50,000*l.* to the officers and seamen. The value of the fleet preserved was estimated at eight millions.

11. Francis II., to preserve equality with his French neighbour, in lieu of being the elective emperor of Germany, assumed the title of *hereditary* emperor of Austria.

25. The lady of colonel Thornton, on the York course, rode a race for 1000 guineas. It was a four-mile heat, and run in nine minutes and fifty-nine seconds, Mrs. Thornton coming in second.

28. M. d'Oubril, the Russian chargé d'affaires at Paris, demanded his passports, the French not having executed the convention with Russia for the evacuation of Naples.

Sept. 1. Rev. Mr. Massey obtained 10,000*l.* damages against the marquis of Headfort for crim. con.: the offence was

perpetrated on the sabbath while the husband was performing divine service.

6. At a court of pie-poudre, Bartholomew fair, a young gentleman paid 3*l.* 16*s.* for taking away an actress when she was going to perform; and 5*l.* for crim. con. to the husband, the lady being married.

12. Thermometer at 80° in the shade.

20. Bank directors determined on a bonus of five per cent. to the proprietors, and also to pay the property-tax. Salaries of directors raised from 150*l.* to 300*l.* a-year.

29. Their majesties entertained with a naval fête and Dutch fair at Weymouth.

The ancient village of Reculver, in Kent (the Regulbium of the Romans) much injured by the equinoctial tides; part of the churchyard washed away.

Oct. 2. CATAMARAN PROJECT.—This was one of many contrivances for destroying the French flotilla, which was collecting in vast numbers on the opposite coasts of the Channel for the invasion of England. The experiment was made under the direction of Lord Keith on 150 gun-boats moored outside of Boulogne pier. The instruments relied on were copper vessels of an oblong form filled with combustibles, and so constructed as to explode in a given time. These vessels were to be towed and fastened under the bottoms of the enemy's boats by a small raft, rowed by one man, who, being seated up to the chin in water, might possibly escape detection in a dark night. (*Ann. Reg.*, xlvii. 141.) But the attempt entirely failed; the enemy opened their tiers and suffered the explosive vessels to pass into the rear, where they harmlessly blew up. Ministers were much ridiculed for countenancing this futile scheme, especially lord Melville, whom Mr. Pitt, either from inability to procure the services of earl Spencer, or from boon-companionship, had placed at the head of the admiralty.

5. ATTACK ON A NEUTRAL STATE.—Some cargoes of treasure being expected from the South American mines at Cadiz, and information having been obtained, captain Moore, with the *Indefatigable*, and three other frigates, without any previous declaration of war, was despatched to intercept them. The British officer fell in with the expected squadron, when the Spaniards refusing to surrender an engagement ensued, and the Spanish admiral's ship, *Mercedes*, blew up with a dreadful explosion, the whole crew, forty excepted, perishing; among them an American family, consisting of the mother, four daughters, and four sons; the unfortunate father and another son being on board one of the other vessels, and spectators of the catastrophe. The remaining three frigates struck in succession, after a considerable loss in killed and wounded. The lading of



the captured vessels was of immense value, consisting of gold and silver bullion and rich merchandise. Indignation, however, was generally excited by this piratical enterprise, both at home and abroad; the more so as its fatal results might have been avoided by sending out such a superior force as would have justified the Spanish commander in the prompt surrender of his vessels; whereas the equality of strength rendered a sanguinary combat inevitable. The chief justification of this violence was in the fact that Spain aided France in the war, by subsidies, paid in lieu of a contingent of troops, that she was bound by the treaty of 1796 to furnish to our enemy.

8. The negro Dessalines crowned emperor of Hayti (the native name of St. Domingo), and an imperial court formed with all its etiquette and appendages.

18. The dowager lady Dacre robbed in paying her accustomed nocturnal visit to the tomb of her late lord in Lee church, Kent.

25. A party of French troops crossed the Elbe and arrested Sir George Rumbold, the English resident at Hamburg, on the pretext of his participating in intrigues for the overthrow of the French government, and for which our ministers, Drake and Smith, had been dismissed from the courts of Bavaria and Wirtemberg. A remonstrance of Prussia procured his liberation, but not the restitution of his papers.

A Roman sepulchre discovered at Ashby-Puerorum, in Lincolnshire.

Nov. 5. On a rejoicing night at Eton college, a young nobleman set fire to a squib in the pocket of one of his companions, which, communicating to others, burnt him so much in the side that he died.

The gilt lion of Button's Coffee-house, which had been the letter-box of the *Guardian*, sold by auction for 17*l.* 10*s.*

9. Mr. Pitt proceeding to the Lord Mayor's feast had his horses taken out of the carriage, and was drawn in triumph by the populace to Guildhall.

12. The king and prince of Wales, having been long at variance, had a conciliatory meeting at Kew-palace.

15. Holkar's army defeated by general Fraser, who died of his wounds near Deeg.

17. Lord Lake defeated the Mahrattas under Holkar, at Furrackabad, taking the whole of his baggage and bullocks.

Dec. 1. Master Betty, called the young Roscius, a youth thirteen years of age, made his first appearance at Covent-garden theatre; the crowd to see him was unparalleled, and the intense interest excited continued through the season.

2. Buonaparte and his wife Josephine crowned by the Pope at Notre Dame emperor and empress, with all the pageantry ingenious adulation could advise,

12. Spain declared war against England,

14. Planet Juno discovered.

24. Price of quatern loaf 1*s.* 4½*d.*

MILITARY FORCE.—Lord Castlereagh made the following statement (*Ann. Reg.* xlv. 19.) of the military force of the United Kingdom;—there were 130,000 in Britain, and 50,000 in Ireland, on permanent pay; of this total of 180,000 the militia amounted to 84,000, and the regulars to 96,000; volunteer force in Britain 340,000; in Ireland 70,000; making a total of 410,000. The sea fencibles were 25,000. The gross force of the united kingdom was nearly 700,000 men in arms.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—At Coppet, M. Necker, 72, the celebrated French financier at the commencement of the revolution. Admiral lord Duncan, 73. Rev. Robert Potter, 83, the eminent Greek translator. Charles Bannister, 63, the comedian and vocalist. George Morland, 40, a clever artist in rustic scenery and low life, but of intemperate habits. James Hare, M.P., well known among the whigs for his conversational powers, but who made no progress as a parliamentary speaker. Richard Pepper Arden, Baron Alvanley, 59, lord chief justice of the common pleas. Robert Macfarlane, 70, author of a "History of George III." Sir George Shuckburgh Evelyn, F.R.S., 53, author of several papers in the "Philosophical Transactions." Timothy Curtis, brother of alderman sir W. Curtis, and one of the heaviest men in England, weighing at one period thirty-four stone. Alderman John Boydell, late lord-mayor of London, and known for his superb edition of Shakspeare. Mr. Carter, musical composer, and author of "Tally ho!" and "O! Nanny, wilt thou gang with me?"

A.D. 1805. THIRD COALITION AGAINST FRANCE.—The storm of invasion alleged to be gathering over England was diverted by the new confederacy on the continent. It was ill concerted and worse conducted than any anterior combination against the power of France. The distant co-operation of Russia was secured, but without the aid of Prussia there was little chance of success, and Austria began the war without any certain knowledge whether the court of Berlin would be hostile or auxiliary in the contest. Buonaparte, by the wariness of his plans and the energy of their execution, disappointed all the calculations of his opponents. By the surrender of Ulm the armies of Austria were ruined without a battle; her capital was taken without resistance; and scarcely had the remnant of her forces joined the Russians in Moravia, when she was compelled to hazard an engagement which laid her prostrate at the feet of the conqueror. The battle of Aus-

terlitz terminated the hopes of the allies, and was followed at the close of the year by the treaty of Presburgh. During the struggle on the continent England acquired new laurels on her favourite element by the victory of Trafalgar—the greatest of her naval triumphs; and, though dearly purchased by the death of admiral Nelson, terminated the cherished hopes of France to rival the maritime power of Britain. In parliamentary occurrences the chief were the charges brought against the first lord of the Admiralty for malversation while treasurer of the navy. Lord Melville had been the staunch supporter and confidential friend of Mr. Pitt; and the charge of peculation against him seriously affected the popularity of his ministry, already weakened by the desertion of the Grenvilles and the hopeless prospects of the war. Lord Sidmouth, after holding office a few months, resigned, not concurring in the minister's scheme of sheltering the state culprit.

Jan. 2. Emperor Napoleon addressed a letter of this date to the king, commencing, "Sir and brother," setting forth the futile nature of the war, and his desire of peace. It was coldly responded to by lord Mulgrave, in a communication of the 14th addressed to Talleyrand, informing him that the object of his majesty was the "future safety and tranquillity of Europe," and that the emperor of Russia participated in his sentiments, having evinced "a lively interest in the safety and independence of the continent."

Died suddenly of apoplexy, at Baylis, near Salt-hill, in his 73rd year, Alexander Wedderburn earl of Rosslyn, an eminent lawyer, but of shifting political predilections. He was one of the chief promoters of the American war, and presided at the trial of the rioters in 1780 with a zeal against the accused unbecoming a judge.—(*Lam Mag.*, No. 27, p. 74.) First a whig, he became a tory under lord North; relapsed into whiggism pending the Regency question, and again deserted the whig to join the war-faction in 1792, receiving soon after the great seal, of which Mr. Pitt had sufficient influence to deprive the king's favourite, Lord Thurlow, who had long by his cross-purposes and underhand practices been a great stumbling-block in his administration. Lord Rosslyn was twice married, but left no issue; sir James Sinclair Erskine, his nephew, succeeded to his lordship's title and estates.

11. MINISTERIAL CHANGES.—Mr. Pitt, not having strengthened himself by an alliance with any party, found it expedient to become reconciled to the late premier, who was raised to the peerage by the title of viscount Sidmouth, and

made lord president of the council in the room of the duke of Portland. Lord Mulgrave succeeded the earl of Harrowby as foreign secretary; the earl of Buckinghamshire was nominated chancellor of the duchy of Lancaster; and others of the Addingtons were sworn of the privy council, among them Mr. Vansittart.

15. Parliament opened by the king, who adverted to the war with Spain, and his confederate intercourse with the continental powers, especially Russia.

30. The New London Docks opened.

Feb. 1. Abergavenny, outward-bound East Indiaman wrecked; 300 persons drowned, and the loss estimated at 200,000*l*.

20. A public fast-day.

22. The French landed 4000 men on Dominica, but general Prevost collecting the British force on the island they thought fit to re-embark. They next proceeded to St. Christopher's and Nevis, where they levied contributions.

23. Dr. Charles Manners, late bishop of Norwich, installed archbishop of Canterbury, vacant by the death of Dr. Moore.

25. ROYAL FETE.—The king, having taken up his abode at Windsor Castle, determined to give, after the old English fashion, a *house warming*. Upwards of 400 of the nobility and other persons of rank were invited, who mostly appeared in full court suits. Glass chandeliers and lustres of great value were displayed, as well as the silver chandeliers, and four beautiful tables, saved from the French invaders in Hanover. The ball-room, instead of being chalked, was painted with appropriate devices. This royal banquet is supposed to have cost 50,000*l*. The entertainments were kept up to a late hour; the royal family withdrew about half-past three in the morning; but the company did not leave till six. Next day the queen gave a grand public breakfast at Frogmore to about 200 persons of distinction; dancing commenced at three, which continued till six, when the guests sat down to an elegant collation.

28. The tunnel, two miles in length, through Blesworth-hill, near Northampton, completed, opening by the Grand Junction-canal a communication with the metropolis.

Mar. 4. First stone of the East India-docks laid by captain Huddart and John Woolmore, esq.

9. Dr. Henry Bathurst promoted to the see of Norwich.

It was determined in the Marshalsea-court that a tenant holding to the amount of 10*l*. a year must give six months' notice to quit, without agreement.

11. The sheriffs of London committed to Newgate by order of the house of commons, for gross partiality, in favour of sir



Francis Burdett, in the late Middlesex election.

**Apr. 6. CHARGES AGAINST LORD MELVILLE.**—Public attention was strongly excited by disclosures in the Fourth Report of the commissioners of naval inquiry, impugning the conduct of the first lord of the admiralty while treasurer of the navy, between the years 1786 and 1800. It was brought before the house of commons on the 6th, by Mr. Whitbread, under three heads of charge. These were, his lordship's applying the public money to other uses than those of the naval department; his conniving at a system of peculation in Mr. Trotter (paymaster of the navy), for whose conduct he was responsible; and his having been a participator in that peculation. Mr. Pitt proposed to refer the subject to a select committee, but, on the suggestion of Mr. Fox, changed his purpose to a motion for the previous question. On a division there appeared, for Mr. Whitbread's resolutions, 216; against them, 216; when the speaker gave his casting vote in their favour. An address to the king was then moved for the dismissal of lord Melville from the admiralty, but, at the desire of Mr. Pitt, the motion was postponed. In the interim his lordship resigned, and his name was crossed from the list of privy councillors, and Mr. Trotter (the paymaster) was dismissed. Various proceedings followed till the end of June, terminating in the impeachment of lord Melville of high crimes and misdemeanors.

11. England concluded the treaty of Petersburg, the basis of a third coalition against France.

Bhurtpore surrendered to lord Lake, who concluded a treaty with the rajah, stipulating for the payment of twenty lacs of rupees to the East India Company.

23. On the motion of Mr. Grey, Peter Stuart, the editor of the *Oracle*, was brought to the bar of the house of commons for a libellous paragraph, and reprimanded by the speaker.

30. It appeared, from Mr. Trotter's account with Messrs. Coutts's, that his dividends from funded property had increased from 80*l.* per annum, in 1791, to 11,308*l.*, in 1802.

The Spanish Inquisition interdicted the circulation of 102 literary works. Locke's "Essay on the Human Understanding" was condemned on the ground that its doctrines were destructive of moral ideas. Pope's works were censured as obscene, heretical, and blasphemous against his holiness of Rome.

May 7. Died, at his house, Berkeley-square, in his 69th year, WILLIAM PETTY, marquis of LANSDOWNE, a general in the army. This eminent nobleman had long

held a conspicuous place in public and private life, and taken an active part in most of the earlier transactions of the present reign. He was a whig, but was not for fettering the crown in the choice of its ministers by factious combinations. While premier, in 1782, he introduced Mr. Pitt, then twenty-three years of age, to the office of chancellor of the exchequer. His lordship's entailed estates, worth 35,000*l.* per annum, descended to his eldest son; and 10,000*l.* a year, and 100,000*l.* in specie (*Annual Register*, xlvii. 477), were willed to his second son, lord Henry Petty, soon after chancellor of the exchequer.

10. Lord Grenville introduced into the lords the subject of the Irish catholic claims. He was supported by lord Moira, and opposed by lords Sidmouth, Hawkesbury, and Redesdale. Catholic petition rejected by 178 to 49.

13. Same subject brought forward in the commons by Mr. Fox, and eloquently seconded by Mr. Grattan, who made his first speech in the British senate. Mr. Pitt, who resigned in 1801 on the ground of his inability to carry a measure in favour of the catholics, declared that his sentiments remained unaltered, but that, so long as the king was opposed to catholic emancipation and the popular feeling against it, he should consider it his duty not only to oppose the introduction of the subject, but deprecate its agitation. Motion negatived by 336 against 124.

18. Being Saturday night, the bishop of London compelled the curtain at the Opera-house to drop at 12 o'clock, before the ballet was finished. He also tried to prevent the desecration of Sunday by evening routs and concerts in the metropolis.

25. **DEATH OF WILLIAM PALEY, D.D.**—This eminent theologian and moralist was a native of Peterborough, and slowly rose, from being an assistant in a Greenwich academy, to be archdeacon of Carlisle and a prebendary of St. Paul's; preferments below his deserts, and unequal to the important services he rendered in support of our lay and ecclesiastical establishments. There is perhaps no public writer who has so essentially contributed to form the political mind of the community, and afforded so many ingenious and forcible arguments in defence of the excellencies, along with the defects, of public institutions. It is the sacrifice of principle to expediency that chiefly renders Paley objectionable as a general teacher of ethical and social science. His style is clear and masculine, but not always neat; his illustrations apt and striking; his applications practical; his judgment shrewd and penetrating. At the university he refused to sign the petition for relief in the matter of subscrip-

tion to the Articles; observing, with more point than decorum, that "he could not afford to keep a conscience;" a burst, probably, of the levity not unusual with him, rather than of a rule of life. Mr. Pitt is said to have wished to bestow a mitre upon Paley, but was thwarted in a high quarter, on the ground that the doctor was not sufficiently orthodox for the episcopal bench.

26. Emperor of France crowned king of Italy in the cathedral of Milan. Napoleon himself took from the altar the iron crown of Charlemagne, and placed it on his head amidst shouts of acclamation.

June 4. Genoa annexed to France.

11. Lord Melville appeared within the bar of the commons to answer the charges against him. He solemnly denied having derived any private benefit from the practices of Mr. Trotter; but confessed he had "applied the sum of 10,000*l.* in a way he could not reveal consistently with private honour and public duty." His lordship's speech made little impression, and the house determined on a criminal prosecution.

15. Miss Paterson, an American lady, and wife of Jerome Buonaparte, prohibited landing in France by the French emperor.

21. The commons voted to the duke of Athol in perpetuity an additional grant of 3500*l.* per annum, in compensation for the sovereignty of the Isle of Man, which the duke's ancestor had sold to government, forty years before, for 70,000*l.*

25. Lord Melville's friends having made fresh discoveries, the proceeding by criminal prosecution was abandoned, and an impeachment agreed to.

The famous "Fairlop Oak," forty-eight feet in girth, and supposed to be 500 years old, injured by a party who had lighted a fire near it for amusement.

The preparations for invasion continued with unabated activity at Boulogne. The army assembled amounted 100,000 men, officered by the first military characters in the imperial service. On the other hand gigantic efforts were made to repel the attack, and a range of martello-towers erected on the most exposed parts of the southern coast.

July 1. Hamilton Rowan, in the King's-bench, Dublin, pleaded the king's pardon for treasonable practices.

10. Lords Sidmouth and Buckinghamshire resigned, the former succeeded by lord Camden, the latter by lord Harrowby. The resignations chiefly arose from a difference with the minister on the prosecution of Melville, Mr. Pitt wishing to screen an old colleague. Lord Castlereagh became foreign secretary, and lord Barmham was placed at the head of the admiralty.

12. Parliament prorogued by commission.

23. Admiral sir Robert Calder captured two sail of the line of the combined French and Spanish fleet, off Ferrol. The rest of the enemy's ships got back to Cadiz.

29. Marquis Cornwallis, the new governor-general of India, arrived at Calcutta.

Salisbury-plain, lately an unprofitable waste (*Ann. Reg.* for 1805, p. 400), now in extensive tracts, presents the most gratifying appearance of cultivation and produce. A few years since there was scarcely an enclosure, or a spot of tillage, for upwards of twenty miles, between Andover and Blandford; the whole of which is now reclaimed, and under various crops of excellent promise.

Aug. 9. Austria joined the coalition.

12. Circus, St. George's-fields, burnt.

15. Grand fête at Stowe, given by the marquis of Buckingham to 400 of the nobility and others. The prince of Wales was present, accompanied by Mr. Fox.

25. Died, in his 62nd year, William Henry duke of Gloucester, next brother to the king, much respected for the virtues of private life. He had married an English lady, and conciliated popular favour by the education of his son in England.

Sept. 9. Gregorian calendar adopted in France.

21. Mr. Blight, a respectable ship-broker of Deptford, while sitting in his parlour, was shot by an unknown person. Mr. Patch, whom he had shortly before admitted to a share in his business, was soon after apprehended, tried, and convicted of the murder.

24. The French emperor left Paris to place himself at the head of his army at Strasburg.

Oct. 5. Died, at Gazeepore, after a long life devoted to the public service, CHARLES MARQUIS CORNWALLIS, governor-general of India. He was provisionally succeeded by the senior member of council, sir George Barlow. The marquis had only arrived in India in July, and had been sent with the view of terminating the wars of conquest waged against the native princes, and adopting towards them a more pacific line of policy than that of his predecessor, the marquis Wellesley. It was the wish of the East India Company, though its purpose was frustrated by the *veto* of the Board of Control, at which lord Castlereagh presided.

17. ULM capitulated to the emperor Napoleon, by which general Mack and 30,000 Austrians laid down their arms. They were the remains of a veteran army of 90,000. The archduke Ferdinand, at the head of a body of cavalry, alone succeeded in making good his retreat into Bohemia.



This first blow of the war was effected by the masterly tactic combinations of the French emperor, who suddenly invested Ulm, where his opponent lay, apparently spell-bound, without attempting to give battle or retreat. Buonaparte addressed the Austrian officers, and told them he wished for nothing upon the Continent. "France," says he, "desires only ships, colonies, and commerce."

20. Werneck, in Italy, with 15,000 men, surrendered to the French under general Murat.

24. VICTORY OF TRAFALGAR, in which the gallant Nelson fell, like Wolfe, in the moment of victory. The combined French and Spanish fleets, consisting of thirty-three sail of the line, had put to sea from Cadiz, under admirals Villeneuve and Gravina. The English fleet amounted to twenty-seven ships of the line, mostly of the largest rate. About noon the battle began; the signal being—since become a national proverb—"England expects every man to do his duty." In two columns, under Nelson and Collingwood, the British bore down, piercing the enemy's line, when the conflict became furious; but in a couple of hours nineteen ships struck their colours, including the French admiral's and two other flag-ships. The loss of the combined fleets was enormous: the Spanish admiral Gravina was mortally wounded; and Villeneuve, unable to bear his defeat, soon after put an end to himself. The loss of the English, in killed and wounded, amounted to 1589, and, including the hero of the Nile, cast a shade over this brilliant naval achievement.

27. Captain Wright died suddenly, in the Temple. His death has been attributed to the French government, but it had no interest in such a catastrophe (*vide* p. 659).

Nov. 4. Sir Richard Strachan with four ships, after a spirited fight, captured off Ferrol four French first-rates that had escaped from the battle of Trafalgar.

14. The French entered Vienna. Massena was advancing to the same point from Italy, driving before him the archduke Charles.

26. The stupendous aqueduct of Pont-croix, upon the Ellesmere canal, at the eastern extremity of the romantic vale of Llangollen, opened. It is 1007 feet in length and 127 in height; Mr. Telford the architect.

Dec. 2. BATTLE OF AUSTERLITZ, near Olmutz; the French emperor defeating the Austro-Russian armies, amounting to 80,000 men, commanded by general Kutusoff and prince Lichtenstein. It was called the battle of the "Three Emperors," and was well contested; but 100 pieces of cannon and 30,000 killed, wounded, and

prisoners, attested the triumph of Napoleon. An immense number perished in a lake by the ice giving way. Davoust, Lannes, Soult, Berthier, and Murat most distinguished themselves among the French marshals.

6. An armistice concluded at a personal interview, on the high road of Hollitsch, between the emperors of Austria and France; to which the emperor Alexander acceded.

23. Vice-admiral sir Robert Calder tried by a court-martial for not bringing to action a second time the French fleet off Ferrol on the 23rd and 24th of July last, and found guilty of an error of judgment; for which he was sentenced to be reprimanded. Sir Robert was in his 60th year, forty-six of which he had honourably passed in the public service; and he deeply felt the reproach cast upon him.

24. Peace concluded in India with the Mahratta chiefs Holkar and Scindiah.

26. TREATY OF PRESBURG.—Austria ceded the old Venetian states to the new kingdom of Italy, and acknowledged Buonaparte's new kings of Bavaria and Wirtemberg. The emperor lost in subjects more than 2,700,000 souls, and in revenue, 16,000,000 of florins. The total exclusion from Italy, and the cession of the Tyrolese frontier to Bavaria, were severe strokes upon the political consequence of Austria. Prussia, which had insidiously held back, watching the progress of the campaign, determined for the present to preserve peace with France, and concluded a convention with that power by which Hanover was provisionally exchanged for Anspach, Cleves, and Neufchatel.

There were committed for crimes in England and Wales, 4605; of whom 530 received sentence of death, and 68 executed; and 595 transported.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—William Buchan, M.D., 76, author of the "Domestic Medicine;" he sold the copyright of this popular manual to the booksellers for 700*l.*, and the sale of it produced them that sum annually (*Ann. Reg.*, xlvii. 467). Of nervous fever, Frederick Schiller, the celebrated German poet. Robert Bissett, LL.D., 46, author of a "Life of Burke," &c. Richard Suett, 49, comedian of Drury-lane. Christopher Anstey, 81, author of the "New Bath Guide." At Paris, M. Anquetil du Perron, 73, a distinguished man of letters. Mrs. Crouch, 46, popular singer and actress. M. Chappe, the inventor of the telegraph: he drowned himself in a well from weariness of life.

A.D. 1806. FRENCH WAR WITH PRUSSIA.—The French emperor continued his restless career of change and territorial acquisition. The petty republics which he had

essentially contributed to establish during the rage of democracy were converted into monarchies, or annexed to his rapidly-extending empire. His brothers, Joseph and Louis, were placed on thrones, and several of the electors and princes of Germany elevated to regality. By the establishment of the Rhenish Confederacy, of which he was declared protector, the Germanic federation was dissolved, and the emperor Francis publicly renounced his imperial supremacy. Prussia, not being allowed to form a counter-league in the north of Europe, rashly determined to try the fortune of war after her balancing policy between France and the coalition had left her without a single confederate. In a single battle the pride of victories, of military discipline and organization, inherited from Frederick the Great, was laid prostrate. Within a month Prussia was overrun by the French legions, her strongest fortresses surrendered, and her capital entered by the conqueror. Before the close of the campaign Buonaparte had penetrated beyond Warsaw in pursuit of the Russians, and projected the re-establishment of the kingdom of Poland. Domestic events were signalised by the deaths, first of Mr. Pitt, and then, within a few months after, of Mr. Fox; two statesmen who had long divided in a more equal degree the suffrages of the nation than the favour of the crown. A stronger disposition towards a continental peace and the reform of fiscal abuses formed the chief features that distinguished the Grenville ministry from their predecessors. A general election, however, at the end of the year showed that they had no support in the country adequate to supply the absence of the confidence of the court.

Jan. 1. The four vergers of St. Paul's made upwards of 1000*l.* by the admission of the public to see the preparations for the funeral of Lord Nelson; "the door-money" says the *Annual Register*, "is taken as at a puppet-show, and amounted for several days to more than 40*l.* for each day."

5. Great hall of Greenwich-hospital thrown open to the public to view the coffin of admiral Nelson.

8. The English, under commodore sir Home Popham and generals sir David Baird and Beresford, obtained possession of the Cape of Good Hope, experiencing little resistance from Janssens, the Dutch governor.

9. The remains of Lord Nelson interred in St. Paul's cathedral: upwards of 160 carriages followed the burial-car: the prince of Wales and royal dukes, both houses of parliament, and the corporation of London, formed part of the procession.

The funeral service was performed by torch-light.

12. An attorney stood in the pillory, in front of Newgate, for defrauding a man of 140*l.* under pretence of getting him a place in the ordnance.

PARLIAMENT opened by the king. Congratulations on naval successes, regrets at the disasters of our allies, and an intimation that one million of the droits of admiralty would be applied to the public service, formed the substance of the royal speech. Intelligence of the dangerous situation of the minister caused the intention of moving an amendment to be abandoned.

20. Sir J. Duckworth captured three French ships of the line, part of a squadron that had escaped from the harbour of Brest.

23. DEATH OF MR. PITT.—The late premier was the second and favourite of three sons of the celebrated earl of Chatham. At an early period he gave earnest of future eminence, and his father used to say that "he would one day increase the glory of the name of Pitt." Till the age of fourteen his education was domestic, the earl himself sedulously co-operating with a private tutor in directing his mind to useful attainments; accustoming him especially to argue logically and harangue with elegance, fluency, and force. Young Pitt was thus nurtured in the arts of statesmanship by one of its first masters. At Cambridge he was conspicuous for classical and mathematical knowledge. He finished his educational course by entering himself student of Lincoln's-inn, and practising as junior-counsel on the western circuit, to which (*Ann. Reg.* xlix. 794.) he thought of returning in 1803, when out of office, as a brief mode of extrication from poverty. His maiden speech in the house of commons was in defence of Mr. Burke's civilist reform bill: he also spoke with energy in favour of parliamentary reform, and made three specific motions on the subject; he was even chosen and acted as a delegate in one of the meetings held in Westminster for the furtherance of that measure. As a son of Chatham he chewed the Rockingham, and attached himself to the Shelburne whigs, under whom he became chancellor of the exchequer at the age of twenty-three. This ministry being dissolved by the coalition of North and Fox, he was thrown into opposition, where he soon showed himself an adept in parliamentary warfare. Dexterously availing himself of the weak points in Mr. Burke's scheme of Indian government, he supplanted the coalitionists with the concurrent approbation of king and people. For seventeen years after—eight of peace and nine of war—he was prime



minister of England. The character of his peace administration has been already described (p. 533): it was favourable to fiscal and commercial improvements. In war he was signally unsuccessful; except naval triumphs he did not reap even the melancholy glory of victories. It was for the protraction rather than the commencement of hostilities for which Mr. Pitt seems to have been most justly obnoxious to animadversion. Alarmed by the destructive aspect of the French revolution, excited and misled by inflammatory writings, the war was national at the beginning, and perhaps unavoidable by any minister; but the country might have been withdrawn from the arena in 1795, contemporaneously with Spain and Prussia, and Austria left singly to contend for the restoration of the seigniorial rights of the German princes in Alsace and Lorraine. But the unbending mind of Mr. Pitt would not allow him to terminate hostilities when aimless and hopeless; he had reluctantly entered into them, but having done so he must successfully conclude them; and rather than do otherwise, after they became unpopular, he withdrew from office, on the ground of inability to redeem his pledge to the catholics of Ireland. Both in the commencement of the war, and in his internal policy, Mr. Pitt was controlled by circumstances. "He perceived the formidable co-operation of external and internal enemies; but the former could not be effectually resisted except by open war, nor the latter without coercive acts of the legislature; and he was persuaded that neither of these expedients, exclusive of his own earnest wish not to have recourse to them, would be approved till their necessity was obvious and incontestible."—(*Bishop Tomline's Memoirs of the Life of Pitt*, ii. 618.) Upon these points great differences of opinion prevailed, and still continue to divide politicians. The number of republican societies established throughout the empire was very great, and their activity incessant. This appears from the elaborate Report on Seditious Societies of Mr. Secretary Dundas (*Ann. Reg.* xli. 150), who minutely describes their ramifications through England, Ireland, and Scotland, and their treasonable correspondence with France, through agents established at Hamburg. But notwithstanding the severe and unconstitutional measures to which Mr. Pitt resorted to counteract their machinations, he was a sincere revolution whig of 1688, of a liberal denomination: upon principles of justice and sound policy, he was favourable to every species of domestic reform; there was no abuse in the Church, nor in the revenue department, nor in the laws affecting different religionists, nor even in

parliamentary representation, to the removal of which he was not friendly, but he made his principles subordinate to his ambition. This was the ruling passion of his soul, as it was of his father to be at the head of the public administration. For this he lent himself to the bigotry of the court, to the selfish fears of the aristocracy, to dangerous inroads on the constitution, to popular ignorance and delusion, to intriguing and mercenary lawyers, and to the corrupt agencies of a war-faction whom a long course of lavish expenditure raised into an almost irresistible influence. He was obstinate; he was proud and haughty; but these all bent to the love of power. The African slave-trade, parliamentary reform, catholic emancipation, the friends of humanity, the "Friends of the People," and the Grenvilles, were all in turn abandoned or dashed aside if they endangered the possession or blocked up the passage to the treasury. It must have been an ignoble education that taught him to prefer place to principle; ministerial leadership to the glory of national ameliorations. Notwithstanding this suppleness of course, Mr. Pitt possessed great and uncommon endowments. Self-reliance, boldness, loftiness, discreteness, and perseverance, were the qualities that marked the outset and progress of his career. In a period of unexampled trial there was nothing in our political constitution, in finance or currency, in domestic or foreign policy, that he did not fearlessly put to hazard, to triumph in the struggle; evincing a consciousness of strength and rectitude, if not a resoluteness, approaching to hardihood. But though his plans were prosecuted with constancy and vigour, they were often ill conceived, and, from choice of instruments, badly executed. Events attested him to be more a mistaken than successful minister. He cannot be reckoned a great man because he neglected the only foundation upon which true greatness can be established. Public happiness, legislation, morals, science, and literature, owed little to him. He was not even a sagacious statesman, for he neither foresaw the beginning nor the end of the French war; and he conducted and defended it upon grounds irrelevant to its origin and character. His chief gift was eloquence; it was commanding, specious, logical, tasteful, and persuasive. It was, however, more the eloquence of an academician than of genius, of words than thoughts, of ingenious evasions and dexterous suggestions than of solid and original arguments. Its dignified and equable flow, as well as the sarcasm in which he excelled, indicated more of a cold, watchful, and subtle nature, than of generous feeling and noble enthu-

siasm. Mr. Pitt's voice was powerful and harmonious, constituting his chief exterior accomplishment. His figure was gaunt, his countenance harsh and severe, his action ungraceful and monotonous, his air collegiate, and, often walking with his mouth open, his face did not express the intellectuality of his mind. Save the oratory and statesmanship of this celebrated minister, there is nothing else to delineate. His life had neither spring nor autumn; to the joys of youth and the tranquil retrospections of age he died a stranger. Like the cathedral of Nôtre Dame to the Hunchback of Victor Hugo, Downing-street became his microcosm, out of which he had no existence. In private life he was improvident, but urbane, convivial, simple in his tastes, and void of ostentation. From the meanness of avarice he was totally free; but, disinterested himself, he was perhaps too slow in suspecting the contrary in some of his colleagues. He died, like admiral Nelson, who shed a parting glory over his public administration, in the 47th year of his age.

26. Buonaparte returned to his capital from Vienna. Paris immediately became a scene of splendid fêtes and rejoicings, on account of the late victories in Germany.

27. Mr. H. Lascelles moved in the house of commons an address to the king, to give directions for the interment of Mr. Pitt in Westminster-abbey, and the erection of a monument to his honour. It was supported by lord Castlereagh, Mr. Rose, and Mr. Wilberforce; opposed by lord Folkstone and Messrs. Fox, W. Smith, Ponsonby, and Windham. The last objected to the phrase "excellent statesman," given to the deceased in the proposed address. For the motion, 258; against it, 89.

31. Leave given to bring in a bill to ascertain the population of Ireland.

Feb. 3. Mr. Cartwright moved that a sum not exceeding 40,000*l.* be granted for the payment of the debts of Mr. Pitt, which was carried without opposition.

5. GRENVILLE MINISTRY.—So much were the strength and credit of the ministry dependent upon Mr. Pitt, that lord Hawkesbury declined the offer of becoming his successor, and it became necessary to make an entire change in the government of the country. The task of forming the new administration was confided to lord Grenville, who with the assent of the king called to his aid Mr. Fox. These leaders, however, could not command more than 150 members of the house of commons (*Ann. Reg.* xlviii. 22), and, not being cordially supported by the court, they were compelled to strengthen themselves by auxiliaries. For this purpose the Addingtons were incorporated; lord Sidmouth's influence over the king continuing undi-

minished, and his party considerable both in parliament and the country. Thus the new ministry consisted of three sections of politicians: first, the Grenvilles, consisting of the whig families (the Bentincks excepted) who had been the strenuous supporters of the war, but were favourable to catholic emancipation; secondly, the followers of Mr. Fox, who coincided with the Grenvilles chiefly in the policy of the latter question; thirdly, the Addingtons who were opposed to concession to the Irish catholics, but friendly to external peace and the reform of domestic abuses. Mutual concessions and compromises of opinion became inevitable; questions on which they differed were postponed, and those only on which there was a general agreement were agitated. Upon this basis the government was constituted as follows:—

Lord Grenville, *First Lord of the Treasury.*

Viscount Sidmouth, *Lord Privy Seal.*

Mr. Fox, *Secretary for Foreign Affairs.*

Lord Erskine, *Lord Chancellor.*

Lord Howick, *First Lord of the Admiralty.*

Lord Henry Petty, *Chancellor of the Exchequer.*

Earl Spencer, *Home Secretary.*

Mr. Windham, *Colonial Secretary.*

Lord Minto, *President of the India Board.*

General Fitzpatrick, *Secretary at War.*

Mr. Sheridan, *Treasurer of the Navy.*

Sir Arthur Pigot, *Attorney-General.*

Sir Samuel Romilly, *Solicitor-General.*

The first eight formed the cabinet, with the addition of chief justice Ellenborough, who was included as the friend of lord Sidmouth. In Ireland the duke of Bedford was lord lieutenant; Mr. Ponsonby lord chancellor; Mr. Plunkett attorney-general; Mr. Bush solicitor-general; Mr. Curran master of the rolls. Lord Hawkesbury, who had declined the premiership, obtained for himself, just before the new ministry was completed, the valuable sinecure of warden of the cinque-ports. The auditorship of the exchequer not being compatible with lord Grenville's new appointment, an act was passed to qualify him to hold both offices; his lordship not wishing to relinquish a sinecure for life of 4000*l.* a-year for the uncertain office of first lord of the treasury. A third question that originated much party discussion was the admission of the chief justice of England into the cabinet. This was considered an unconstitutional infringement of the independence of the judges, of which there was no precedent since the Revolution, except in the case of lord Mansfield, who, as a cabinet-minister, took an open part as the adviser of the crown.

6. At a meeting of the common-council of London it was moved that a monument be erected in Guildhall to the me-



mory of Mr. Pitt, and the motion carried by a majority of 77 against 71.

8. Sir Francis Burdett having declined opposing Mr. Mainwaring's petition, the latter was declared M.P. for Middlesex.

18. Joseph Buonaparte entered Naples and assumed the sovereignty.

19. An iron bridge over the New-cut, Bristol, fell down and shivered to pieces.

20. Mr. Pitt's body laid in state this day and the next in the Painted Chamber, Westminster.

Mr. Fox, in a note to Talleyrand, apprised him of the offer of a Frenchman to assassinate Buonaparte. It led to some correspondence on the subject of opening a negotiation for peace on the basis of the treaty of Amiens, but ended without any satisfactory conclusion.

22. Mr. Pitt publicly interred in Westminster Abbey: the funeral was thinly attended. Dr. Vincent, the dean, read the service; and the herald, after pronouncing over his grave the titles of the deceased minister, declared *non sibi sed patriæ vixit*.

At the Middlesex sessions the marquis de Chambonas was convicted and sentenced to six months' imprisonment in Newgate for defrauding of several sums of money Bertrand de Moleville, the author of "Memoirs of the French Revolution."

MANAGEMENT OF PIGS.—The following experiment has been made by a gentleman of Norfolk (*Annual Register*, xlviii. 375). Six pigs of nearly equal weight were put to keeping at the same time, and treated the same as to food and litter for seven weeks. Three of them were left to shift for themselves as to *cleanliness*; the other three were kept as clean as possible by a man employed for the purpose with a curry-comb and brush. The last consumed in seven weeks fewer peas by five bushels than the other three, yet weighed more when killed by two stone and four pounds upon the average.

24. General Thomas Picton tried in the court of king's bench before lord Ellenborough for ordering, while governor of Trinidad, the torture to be inflicted on Louisa Calderon, a girl eleven years of age, to extort the confession of a theft. The torture employed was that called *picketing*, consisting of suspension by one wrist, the foot resting on a spike. Defence set up was that the general only acted conformably to the Spanish laws under which the island was governed. The jury found him *guilty*.

Mar. 3. Debates in both houses of parliament on the cabinet appointment of the chief justice Ellenborough. Resolution of censure negatived without a division in the lords; and by a majority of 222 against 64 in the commons.

7. The skeleton of a crocodile ten feet and a half in length found at Doddridge in Gloucestershire in a solid stratum of limestone twenty feet thick, and embedded fifteen feet below the surface.

13. Two French ships of war, commanded by admiral Linois, captured by sir J. B. Warren.

26. Mr. Fox informed Talleyrand of the readiness of England to treat for peace, but only in concert with Russia.

28. Lord Henry Petty opened, in a perspicuous statement, the *BUDGET*. The annual charge of the debt was now upwards of 27,000,000*l*. The requisite supplies were stated at 43,618,472*l*; and among the proposed means was a loan of eighteen millions, and war-taxes to the amount of nineteen millions. The income-tax was raised from six and a half to ten per cent., including all property above 50*l*. a-year; and, though highly unpopular, was continued during all the subsequent years of the war. Some salutary regulations were introduced for correcting great abuses in the revenue department. There had been a gradual accumulation of unaudited accounts, amounting, when ministers came into office, to 534 millions. The satisfaction expressed at these economical reforms was only abated by a new impost on pig-iron, the exemption of the funded property of the king from the income-tax, and the additional annuities granted to the royal family.

Apr. 1. The king of Prussia declared himself sovereign of Hanover.

3. Mr. Windham, who had always opposed the volunteer system, brought forward his plan of limited service. He proposed that the infantry should be enlisted for seven years only, with liberty to renew their services for another seven years, receiving an increase of pay. Cavalry and artillery to be enlisted for ten years, the second period six, and the third five years. The plan was strenuously opposed, but passed into a law. Lord Castlereagh said the prosperity of the country was such that ministers "reposed on a bed of roses;" a state of bliss that became the subject of popular caricatures.

5. Richard Patch tried at Horsemonger-lane, for the murder of his partner, Isaac Blight. He was found guilty, as before stated (p. 666), and executed on the 8th, without exciting any commiseration, from the aggravated nature of his offence. He was in his 38th year, and obdurally refused to confess, though he did not deny his crime.

General Miranda sailed from New York to the Spanish main with 360 adventurers of different nations.

18. American congress passed a non-

importation act against British manufactures, on account of the impressment of their seamen, and other violations of their neutral rights.

22. **CHARGES AGAINST MARQUIS WELLESLEY.**—Mr. Paul, a gentleman who had recently returned from India, made several attempts in the course of the parliamentary session to establish charges of maladministration against the late governor-general. On the 22nd he stated the heads of the charges he intended to bring forward. They chiefly referred to the system of territorial acquisition and wasteful expenditure in which lord Wellesley had indulged, in his Indian government, from 1798 to 1805. During this period the debts of the Company had increased from twelve to thirty-one millions. But the profitless results of the impeachment of Mr. Hastings deterred all parties, and even the public, from encouraging a similar mode of procedure. Mr. Paul, whose temper was not very suitable to the arduous task he had undertaken, persevered, however, till his death in his hopeless task.

25. Lord Howick moved for, and obtained an increase of, pay for seamen.

29. Trial of lord Melville, by impeachment of the commons, began in Westminster-hall.

*May 12.* First stone laid of Hailybury-college, near Hertford, for the education of the civil servants of the East India Company.

Parliament granted to earl Nelson, brother of the late gallant admiral, and his heirs, 5000*l.* per annum, and 120,000*l.* to purchase a family estate.

29. The king directed an inquiry into the conduct of the princess of Wales. About two months after, the commission of inquiry made its report to the effect that the alleged pregnancy and delivery of the princess had been disproved.

*June 5.* Louis Buonaparte, a younger brother of Napoleon, elected king of Holland.

10. **ABOLITION OF SLAVE TRADE.**—Sir Arthur Pigott, having previously introduced a bill restraining this iniquitous traffic, Mr. Fox moved a resolution, "That this house, conceiving the African slave-trade to be contrary to the principles of justice, humanity, and sound policy, will, with all practicable expedition, proceed to take effectual measures for abolishing the said trade in such manner and at such period as may seem advisable." On a division, the resolution was carried by 114 against 15. On the motion of lord Grenville, the lords concurred in the same resolution by a majority of 41 to 20. But it was not till the next session that this protracted labour of humanity was consummated by an act of parliament.

12. Lord Melville acquitted of the charges brought against him, the substance of which has been before stated (p. 665). The number of peers voting was 135.

27. Buenos Ayres taken possession of by sir Home Popham. The armament for this enterprise had been fitted out at the Cape of Good Hope, without any authority from the government at home; and the gallant commodore was so elated with his success, that he immediately despatched a circular to England, stating that a whole continent had been opened to British commerce.

The tyrannical conduct of Dessalines, the self-constituted emperor of Hayti, having excited an insurrection, in which he was killed, Christophe, who had been a negro slave, and by trade a tailor, succeeded to the supreme power.

*July 4.* **VICTORY OF MAIDA.**—A British force, commanded by sir John Stuart, consisting of 5000 men, landed at Euphemia, to co-operate with the duke of Calabria and the Neapolitans. The French were 7000 strong, and commanded by general Regnier. Confident in his strength, and sure of success, the French commander descended from his position and commenced the attack, but when the bayonets crossed he was undeceived; his line, immediately giving way, abandoned the field, and were pursued with great slaughter. This victory yielded the British army, however, nothing more solid than glory; for, the enemy being reinforced, sir John Stuart was compelled to retire to Sicily.

10. An alarming mutiny broke out among the native troops in India at Vellore. It chiefly rose from an alteration in the shape of the turban, and an apprehension of the sepoys that they would be compelled to become christians. It was suppressed by a regiment of dragoons, who cut down 600 of them, and shot 200 more.

12. **CONFEDERATION OF THE RHINE** formed, and the French emperor declared its protector: it consisted of the kings of Bavaria and Wirtemberg, the elector of Baden, the archbishop of Ratisbon, the landgrave of Hesse Darmstadt, the grand duke of Berg, and other German princes, who renounced their connexion with the Germanic empire, and appointed a diet at Frankfort to conduct their common concerns. Upon news of this association the emperor of Austria renounced the iron crown, and absolved the electors and princes of the empire from the duties which, as imperial chief, he had a right to demand.

20. Peace between France and Russia signed at Paris; but Alexander refused to



ratify it, on the ground that D'Oubril had exceeded his instructions.

23. Jewish Sanhedrim summoned by Buonaparte at Paris, and to which he put various questions: the substance of the answers obtained were, that the Jews allowed of polygamy, divorce, and marriages with other sects, but varied by usage.

Aug. 12. Spaniards retake Buenos Ayres.

26. General abhorrence excited by Buonaparte causing a bookseller named Palm, of Nuremberg, to be shot for vending a book reflecting on his government. Napoleon ordered 6000 copies of the iniquitous sentence on Palm to be distributed to deter others from the like offence.

Sept. 12. DEATH OF LORD THURLOW.—Edward Thurlow was one of three sons of the vicar of Ashfield in Suffolk, to whom the father used to say that a good education was all he could afford to give them, and their success in life must depend on the use they made of it. About Edward he felt no apprehension, being convinced that he would “fight his way,” which he did very unscrupulously. An accidental brief he obtained in the great Douglas cause brought him into notice at the bar; and a strong and acute, but coarse mind, much assurance, with great laxity of principle, did the rest. He and Wedderburn, as solicitor and attorney-general were the chief supporters of Lord North in the house of commons, during the disastrous American war. As a *personal friend* of the king, Thurlow retained the great seal during the short ministry of the marquis of Rockingham. Under an outer-crust of blunt honesty and seeming independence, he concealed a great deal of selfish cunning, suppleness, and intrigue. By brow-beating the duke of Grafton, whom he called the “accident of an accident,” and other great lords, he made himself popular with the people, and perhaps with George III., who used to wink at his immoralities for the sake of his servility, though the king refused the same indulgence to Mr. Fox, who was not so dexterous a courtier. His double practices were however detected, pending the settlement of the regency, in 1788; when it was discovered that the tory chancellor, to keep his office, had been secretly intriguing with the whig heir-apparent. This appears to have damaged Thurlow in the estimation of the king, who consented to part with him, at the instance of Mr. Pitt, in 1792. “Your friend, lord Thurlow,” said lord North to a gentleman known to the chancellor, “thinks that his personal influence with the king authorises him to treat Mr. Pitt with *humour*. Take my word for it, whenever Mr. Pitt says to the king, ‘Sir, the

great seal must be in other hands,’ the king will take the great seal from lord Thurlow, and never think any more about him.” (*Law Magazine*, vii. 76.) Even so; lord chancellor Thurlow was dismissed, and no more heard of in public life. He died after two days’ illness at Brighton in his 72nd or 75th year, leaving no reputation beyond that of a successful political lawyer. He was never married, but he left three illegitimate daughters, to two of whom he bequeathed 70,000*l.* each, and to the third, who had displeased him by marriage, 50*l.* a month, so long as she lived apart from her husband. He had a son by a dean’s daughter, but he died before reaching manhood. For his brothers Thurlow procured rich church preferments; one of his nephews, a minor, succeeded to his title and estate; and to another he gave the clerkship of the Hanaper in chancery, a sinecure worth 9000*l.* a-year. He was the last of the four great law-lords whose deaths have been recorded in the present reign, who by industry and subtlety acquired peerages and large possessions, but which, by a singular coincidence, they failed to transmit to direct heirs. Dunning’s title (Ashburton) expired in the first generation; that of Mansfield, Rosslyn (Wedderburn), and Thurlow, descended to collaterals.

13. DEATH OF MR. FOX.—This eminent and much-respected statesman expired at Chiswick-house, where he had thrice within five weeks undergone an operation for the dropsy. He was in his 59th year, and the second son of Henry first lord Holland, long the opponent of the first earl of Chatham, and whose pecuniary conduct as paymaster of the forces at one time formed the subject of popular animadversion (*Ann. Reg.* xii. 139). Mr. Fox, like his rival, the late premier, gave early indications of superior capacity; and like him was carefully educated for political life. Both these distinguished men began their career in the steps of their progenitors; but crossed in their course, one deviating into the courtly minister, and the other into the popular leader. Natural disposition was too strong for the paternal impulse; and the close ambition of Mr. Pitt threw him as aptly into royal favour as the ardent and ingenuous mind of Fox into the ranks of the people. While acting under the influence of his tory father Mr. Fox both spoke and voted against Wilkes. He soon, however, dropped into his congenial element, as the advocate of freedom. He supported Sir William Meredith’s bill to give relief from subscription to the 39 Articles, and steadily opposed the war with the American colonies. It was the fetters of party that enchained his

mind; and to the expediency of faction he sacrificed political rectitude. He coalesced with lord North to supplant the Shelburnes in authority; and on the question of the regency, in 1788, advocated a sort of tory doctrine of indefeasible right to the full exercise of the executive power by the prince of Wales, in which he was neither supported by constitutional analogy, a majority of the house of commons, nor of the people. Mr. Fox belonged to the Corinthian order of politicians (*Butler's Reminiscences*), and was averse to any organic changes in the constitution that might endanger the monopoly of power by the great families. He was probably more inimical to parliamentary reform than Mr. Pitt; and it was only when he despaired of shaking Pitt's ministry by any party combination that he made his peace with Horne Tooke, and avowed himself favourable to a change in the national representation. Mr. Fox entered public life among the aristocracy, lived, and had his being among the order; and with them closed his career. It was by their prevailing influence against the crown that he twice became minister; and by them he was supported throughout. In power he had always their interest in view; of which the patronage he sought to obtain them by his oligarchical India bill was an instance. He supported the property-tax, on the principle that men ought, as far as possible, to be retained in the stations which they once occupied; and that it is quite as reasonable the lower orders should want as that the higher should be deprived of their usual enjoyments. On the breaking out of the French revolution he took a firm and fearless part; but it is likely he undervalued the temporary suffering, and even danger, of that great social fever, though he did not over-estimate its lasting benefits. In the Grenville ministry he had too brief and limited a share to be accountable for its measures; for he began to feel in March the approach of the malady that terminated his existence. The acquirements of Mr. Fox were more classical than scientific. Political economy and finance he did not profess to understand; though in one of his speeches he helped to bring into public notice the "Wealth of Nations," by referring to Dr. Smith, whose works were as little known at the time as those of Bentham many years subsequently. Mr. Fox was probably not much behind his contemporaries on economical subjects; for, though the prosperity of the empire mainly depended on its capital and industry, the laws that regulate them had not generally fixed the attention of statesmen. He was well acquainted with mankind from mingling

freely in society. He thoroughly understood the political history of the country and its constitution, as settled at the revolution of 1688, according to which the executive ought always to be kept subordinate to a parliamentary majority; and which would have been a safe enough guarantee of the public weal, had that majority represented the national interests. Mr. Fox was an orator of the first and best class. His eloquence was argumentative, forcible, sententious, and unpremeditated; it was genuine, the eloquence of conviction, of a warm, just, and noble nature. Mr. Fox was a votary of pleasure. "Indolence," Mr. Nicholls says, "was his sultana queen." A kind, open, and generous heart, procured him many and attached friends; and as he had never much to reward them with, privately or politically, it is likely they were disinterested.

18. Bank of England declared a half-yearly dividend of  $3\frac{1}{4}$  per cent., and a bonus of 5 per cent., besides paying the property-tax.

24. Buonaparte left Paris to place himself at the head of his army; the chastisement of Prussia being determined upon, who had long pursued a dubious course of policy, which left her singly, while engaged in hostilities with England, to contend against her powerful antagonist.

Oct. 4. Died, in his 73rd year, Samuel Horsley, bishop of St. Asaph, a prelate of great classical and mathematical acquirements, and an astringent theological controversialist. He was patronised by lord Thurlow, on the ground that those "who defend the church ought to be supported by the church." Dr. Horsley had gone to visit his old friend at Brighton, whom he found dead, and seems not to have long survived.

6. Negotiations for peace between France and Britain terminated, the latter requiring that Russia should be a party. The subscribers at Lloyd's gave a shout of exultation on receipt of the news of the failure of lord Lauderdale's pacific mission.

8. The following ministerial changes had taken place: viscount Howick succeeded the late Mr. Fox in the foreign secretaryship; Thomas Grenville became first lord of the admiralty; viscount Sidmouth lord president of the council; lord Holland privy seal; and George Young, who, with Mr. Francis, had at first been unaccountably left out of the ministry, was placed at the head of the India board.

10. Mr. Fox publicly interred in Westminster Abbey: his body was deposited immediately adjoining the monument of



lord Chatham, and within eighteen inches of the grave of Mr. Pitt.

14. **BATTLE OF JENA.**—After a variety of skilful movements, the French emperor had succeeded in turning the left of the Prussians, and placing himself between their main force and Berlin and Dresden. A general engagement became unavoidable. The French were posted along the Saale from Naumburg to Kahla, their centre being at Jena. The Prussians, under prince Ferdinand, were ranged between Jena, Auerstadt, and Weimar. On the morning of the battle a thick fog covered the ground; but about nine the sun shone out, when the fronts of both armies were found almost within musket-shot. Immediately about 250,000 men, with 700 pieces of cannon, were employed in mutual destruction. Courage and discipline on each side were nearly equal; but the French evinced superior military science. The seasonable arrival on the ground of Augereau, at the head of some of the regiments of Austerlitz, seconded by a brilliant charge of Murat's cuirassiers, completed the business of the day. Napoleon, from the height where he stood, saw the flight in all directions of the Prussians, and the French cavalry taking them by thousands. More than 20,000 Prussians were killed or wounded, and 40,000 taken prisoners, with 300 cannons. Prince Ferdinand died of his wounds. A panic seized the garrisons, and all the principal towns of Prussia, west of the Oder, surrendered to the enemy soon after the battle almost without resistance. The king, who is said to have been urged by the queen rashly to engage in the war, withdrew to Königsberg.

19. Parliament dissolved by proclamation.

25. Bonaparte entered Berlin. While in the Prussian capital he received a deputation from the French senate, complimenting him on his wonderful successes, but recommending peace.

30. Thirteen ships of the Jamaica fleet, of 109 sail, foundered at sea.

31. Mr. Sheridan and sir S. Hood, in opposition to Mr. Paul, returned for Westminster; Sir F. Burdett and Mr. Byng for Middlesex; sir Charles Price, Sir W. Curtis, H. C. Combe, and J. Shaw, for the city of London.

Nov. 8. The strong fortress of Magdeburg, with a garrison of 22,000 men, capitulated to marshal Ney.

10. Died at Altona, of the wounds received at Jena, Ferdinand duke of Brunswick, father-in-law of the prince of Wales. He commanded the Prussians in 1792, and promulgated the indiscreet manifesto of that year. Bonaparte would not suffer the remains of the duke to be deposited in the vault of his ancestors.

12. A new institution, the "Refuge for the Destitute," opened at Hackney.

19. Mortier entered Hamburg, and sequestered all English property.

21. **BERLIN DECREE.**—This decree was the commencement of what was termed the continental system, in which Bonaparte declared the British islands to be in a *state of blockade*; all British subjects found in countries occupied by the French troops prisoners of war; all English property lawful prize; commerce in all British produce and manufactures prohibited; and all vessels touching at England or any English colony excluded from every harbour under the control of France. These infringements of national law the emperor justified on the ground that England had extended the right of maritime blockade to places not actually invested, and insisted that the law should be the same by sea as on land.

23. The Russians entered Moldavia and Wallachia, which occasioned a war with the Turks.

28. The French entered Warsaw.

Dec. 19. Three horses poisoned near Oundle, by eating the fibres of a yew-tree.

**MEETING OF THE NEW PARLIAMENT.**—The returns to the new parliament had increased, though not equal to expectation, the power of ministers in the house of commons. The whig party, which had been driven out of Yorkshire in 1784, recovered one of the seats for that great county. In Norfolk, after a hard contest, both members returned were whigs. In Liverpool they carried one seat against the slave interest; but in Southwark and Norwich they lost one each; and, by an attack of sir Francis Burdett on the memory of Mr. Fox, a seat for Middlesex was lost to the ministry. In both houses the ministerial addresses were carried without a division.

26. Battle of Pultusk, in which the French, under Lannes and Davoust, were roughly handled by the Russians, under general Bennigsen.

31. Treaty of amity, commerce, and navigation, signed with the United States of America.

In this year Dr. Gall, a German, started a new theory concerning the brain, which he called *craniology*.

A large sarcophagus was brought from Egypt, supposed to be the tomb of Alexander the Great.

Committed for crimes in England and Wales, 4346; of whom 325 received sentence of death, 522 were transported, and 57 executed.

**ANNUAL OBITUARY.**—James Barry, R.A., 65, an historical painter of merit, but whose eccentric genius had defeated

the patronising kindness of Mr. Burke and his brother Richard towards him. Mrs. Carter, 89, translator of Epictetus. David earl of Macartney, chiefly known from his splendid embassy to China. Rev. John Brand, M.A., 63, author of "Popular Antiquities." Mrs. Anne Yearsley, a self-instructed votary of the muses, under the name of the "Milkwoman of Bristol." Mrs. Charlotte Smith, an elegant sonneteer, and author of some superior novels. John Buckley, 73, the last of the Muggletonians; a religious sect that originated in Cromwell's time.

A. D. 1807. STATE OF PARTIES.—A prominent feature in the domestic state of the country was a growing distrust of the political factions which had heretofore divided the national suffrages. The reputation of the Pitt party for public integrity had been impaired by the malversations of lord Melville. If they were not peculators themselves, they were regarded by the public as the abettors of speculation, by seeking to screen the accused from punishment. The impression left by this affair was heightened by subsequent discoveries. It was found that the public accounts had been left unaudited for years, and that De Lancey and others were defaulters to a large amount. Some hope, therefore, was entertained that a check at least would be put to fiscal abuses by the whig ministry. But there was little enthusiasm in their favour. Popular feeling, indeed, of any sort had entirely evaporated. The violence engendered by the French revolution had long since spent its fury, and had given place to general indifference on political subjects that did not directly affect the public purse, or concern the naval glory of the kingdom. But while the Grenville ministry could not reckon on the ardent support of the country, they had to contend against the secret disinclination of the court, and the active hostility of the veteran officials they had displaced. None of this party was eminent for talent or experience after the death of Mr. Pitt, but they controlled a powerful machinery. Many of the public journals were under their influence; and, from long practice in the art of governing opinion through the press, they perfectly understood how to work that formidable engine to the best advantage (*Ann. Reg.* xlviii. 33). They had intimate connexions in the city, in the bank, in the India-house, and in most of the municipal and trading corporations, and were able to give an impulse to these bodies whenever it suited their purposes. In all the public offices and departments the subalterns and clerks were indebted to the ex-ministers for their places; and it was by their return to office

they chiefly anticipated further preferment. These obstacles might have been overcome by a popular course of administration. But the Grenvilles disappointed public expectation; and, at the time of the death of Mr. Fox, the little confidence with which it had commenced was greatly diminished. Neither peace had been obtained nor the war vigorously prosecuted. The minor imputations against them were the acquittal of lord Melville—a disinclination to investigate the charges against the marquis Wellesley—the increase of the income-tax—the admission of the chief justice of England to a seat in the cabinet—the retention of the auditorship of the exchequer by the first lord of the treasury—and a general eagerness, hardly exceeded by their predecessors, after the emoluments of the government. Hence their removal from office excited little regret, and the accession of the Portland ministry no hope. A war of recrimination and reciprocal exposure that followed the change of ministries helped still further to establish a public opinion independent of the rival parties. "Beware of popery and the encroachments of powerful families on the prerogatives of the crown!" exclaimed one faction. "Beware of the artifices of subtle courtiers and time-serving lawyers!" exclaimed the other: each accused the other of seeking the offices of government, not to serve the country, but to advance their interests and that of their dependents. The people appeared well disposed to believe both. Both parties, the OURS and the INS, as they now began to be familiarly called, had so uniformly embarrassed government when it was not in their own hands, and yet so uniformly taken the opportunity of deserting the cause they had professed to maintain, that the people at large lost all confidence in public men. The effect of this change of public sentiment was strikingly evinced in the general election of the current year. The representation of the city of Westminster had always been considered the appropriate function of one or the other faction; but the independent electors united and determined to rid themselves of the domination of both. Sir F. Burdett and lord Cochrane became popular by disclaiming all attachment to all parties, and declaring their wishes to overturn abuses and nothing but abuses; to look only to the measures of men, not to their persons and connexions. Their election for Westminster was a complete triumph over aristocratic dictation and all factions whatever. It was the rise of a THIRD PARTY in the state, whose struggles continued for thirty years after, and have not yet terminated.



Jan. 2. Lord Grenville explained in the upper house the grounds of the rupture of the late negotiations with France. His lordship contended that the only proper basis of peace between the two countries was that of actual possession; since England being a great maritime, and France a great continental power, there could be no cession between them that could lead to permanent advantage. A similar discussion ensued in the lower house. Mr. Perceval blamed ministers for protracting the negotiations, as no peace worth acceptance could be concluded with France so long as her councils were directed by Talleyrand and Buonaparte.

7. An order of council issued in retaliation of Buonaparte's Berlin decree, prohibiting the trade of neutrals from any one port to another, both being in possession of France or her allies.

Lord Minto sworn in governor-general of India, and general Hewitt commander-in-chief of the Company's forces.

28. Peace concluded with Prussia.

**FREEHOLD ESTATES BILL.**—Sir Samuel Romilly, on the 28th, moved the house of commons for leave to bring in a bill for making the *freehold estates* of persons dying indebted, assets for the payment of simple contract debts. As the law stood a person might contract debts to any amount not evidenced by bond or other special instrument, yet dying with property amply sufficient to satisfy these demands, his estate would pass to the heir-at-law, or by testamentary assignment it might pass to a stranger, and his creditors remain unpaid. The bill passed a second reading, but was thrown out on the third.

29. Lord Henry Petty introduced his new plan of finance. Its leading feature was to raise a loan for the present and future years of the war without any addition to the public burdens, by mortgaging the war-taxes. These taxes were to be pledged at the rate of ten per cent. for each loan, five per cent for interest, and five per cent. as an accumulating sinking-fund to pay off the principal. It excited much discussion, and the resolutions embodying the minister's scheme were favourably received.

Feb. 2. Monte Video taken by assault by the English under sir Samuel Auchmuty.

5. The bill for the abolition of the African slave-trade passed a second reading in the lords by a majority of 100 to 36. It was supported by the duke of Gloucester, lords Holland, King, and Rosslyn; opposed by the duke of Clarence, and lords Morton, St. Vincent, Eldon, Westmorland, Hawkesbury, and Sidmouth; the last recommending a preli-

minary moral and religious instruction of the slaves.

8. Battle of Eylau between the French under Buonaparte and the Russians under Bennigsen. The slaughter was dreadful; about 40,000 on both sides killed and wounded, and neither could claim the victory. The Russians retired behind the Pregel, and the French on the Vistula, abandoning their design on Königsberg.

23. Holloway and Haggerty executed at the Old Bailey for the murder of Mr. Steele on Hounslow-heath, November 6th, 1802. They had been convicted on the 20th, on the evidence of an accomplice, and to the last protested their innocence. They were hardened offenders of infamous character, and little doubt could exist of their guilt. An immense crowd attended the execution, and a cart breaking down in the midst, caused a fatal pressure; twenty-eight persons were trampled to death, and many others dreadfully hurt.

**CONDITION OF THE POOR.**—On the 23rd instant Mr. Whitbread brought forward his plan in the house of commons for encouraging industry and relieving the poor. He expressed his concurrence in the principles of Mr. Malthus, and his conviction of the tendency of the poor-laws to deteriorate the condition of the labouring classes (*Ann. Reg.* xlix. 134). From returns made up in 1803, it appeared that upon a population in England and Wales of 8,870,000 not less than 1,234,000 were partakers of parochial relief; that is, nearly one-seventh part of the people was indebted to the other six, wholly or in part, for support. Mr. Whitbread's undertaking was very extensive. Its main principle was to exalt the character of the industrious orders; to give them consequence in their own eyes; to excite them to acquire property by the prospect of tasting its sweets; to render dependent poverty degrading in their estimation, and at all times less desirable than independent industry. For the attainment of these issues he proposed a system of national education by the establishment of parochial schools; not compulsory on the poor, which would destroy their object, but voluntary. The bill for this purpose fell to the ground, partly from a change of administration, and was finally thrown out of the lords, August 11th, on the motion of lord Hawkesbury.

Mar. 1. Sir John Duckworth repassed the Dardanelles, not having succeeded in his coercive mission to detach the Porte from the interests of France. About 250 men were killed and wounded in this enterprise; and the English, as they repassed the castles, were assailed by the fire of vast blocks of marble, one of which, weighing

800 pounds, cut in two the mainmast of the Windsor man of war.

5. Lord Howick introduced a bill for removing religious tests in the army and navy, and assimilating the practice in England to that already existing in Ireland. It was strenuously opposed by Mr. Perceval as endangering the church-establishment and opening the door to popery; and he strongly expressed his apprehensions of that "spirit of innovation which was stealing in by degrees." Bill read a first time.

6. Sir Home Popham sentenced to be reprimanded for withdrawing, without authority, the king's naval force from the Cape of Good Hope for the attack on Buenos Ayres.

13. Surrey canal-basin, Rotherhithe, opened for shipping.

18. Religious test bill postponed.

20. Alexandria in Egypt taken possession of by British troops under general Fraser.

25. Royal assent given to the bill for the abolition of the slave-trade.

PORTLAND MINISTRY.—The ministers first tried to modify lord Howick's bill so as to adapt it to the king's scruples without destroying its essence. Failing in this attempt they agreed to abandon the bill altogether; but at the same time, in vindication of their own characters, to insert in the proceedings of the cabinet a minute reserving to lord Grenville and lord Howick,—1st, the liberty of delivering their opinions in favour of the catholic question; 2nd, that of submitting this question, or any connected with it, from time to time, to his majesty's decision (*Ann. Reg.* xlix. 141). The ministers were called upon not only to withdraw the latter reservation, but to substitute in its place a written obligation pledging themselves never again to bring forward the measure, or to propose anything connected with the catholic question. Conceiving such an engagement inconsistent with their principles and their duty, and having communicated their sentiments to the king, they received next day their dismissal. Their successors were the following:—

Duke of Portland, *First Lord of the Treasury.*

Mr. Perceval, *Chancellor of the Exchequer.*

Earl Westmorland, *Lord Privy-Seal.*

Mr. Canning, *Foreign Secretary.*

Lord Hawkesbury, *Home Secretary.*

Lord Castlereagh, *Colonial Secretary.*

Lord Eldon, *Lord Chancellor.*

Earl Chatham, *Master-General of the Ordnance.*

Earl Camden, *President of the Council.*

Lord Mulgrave, *First Lord of the Admiralty.*

Earl Bathurst, *President of the Board of Trade.*

Mr. Dundas, *President of the India Board.*

Mr. G. Rose, *Treasurer of the Navy.*

Sir Vicary Gibbs, *Attorney-General.*

Sir Thomas Plomer, *Solicitor-General.*

Duke of Richmond, *Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland.*

Sir Arthur Wellesley, *Chief Secretary.*

Mr. Foster, *Chancellor of the Exchequer.*

Lord Manners, *Lord Chancellor.*

26. Lords Grenville and Howick explained in parliament the causes of the change of ministry, and which have been already stated.

April 2. The Bristol mail robbed of a banker's parcel, but the guard discovering the theft in time, one of the two thieves was apprehended.

6. The Stamford coach performed the journey from London at the rate of twelve miles an hour, exclusive of stoppages.

22. A deputation from the corporation of London, consisting of the lord mayor, twelve aldermen, and twelve common-councilmen, presented a loyal address to the king, expressive of their gratitude for his firm support recently given to the protestant religion, and for the exercise of his prerogative in preserving the independence of the crown.

29. Parliament dissolved on the ground of appealing to the sense of the people immediately after recent events: it had existed only four months and fifteen days.

May 1. Duel between Sir F. Burdett and Mr. Paul, owing to a misunderstanding about the former being chairman of a dinner to be given to the latter.

19. Dantzic surrendered to the French after an obstinate defence, the trenches having been opened fifty-two days.

21. A detachment of the British force in Egypt repulsed with considerable loss in an attack on Rosetta.

23. At the close of the poll for Westminster the numbers were, for sir F. Burdett 5134, lord Cochrane 3708, Mr. Sheridan 2645, Mr. Elliott 2137.

29. Selim III. deposed, and his nephew, Mustapha III., placed on the Turkish throne.

June 4. An experimental exhibition of GAS-LIGHTS in Pall-mall.

14. Battle of Friedland, in which the Russians, after an obstinate resistance, were defeated by Buonaparte, with the loss of 18,000 men killed and wounded. The fruits of this dear-bought victory were the possession of Königsberg, leaving only Memel to the Prussians, and the retreat of the Russians across the Niemen.

16. South-London water-works opened.

23. The American ship Chesapeake re-



fusing to be searched, a broadside was discharged into her by the Leopard, English man-of-war, which killed and wounded several seamen.

19. Buonaparte entered Tilsit.

23. Armistice between France and Russia.

25. First interview between Napoleon and the emperor of Russia. They met on a raft moored in the middle of the Niemen and embraced, amidst the acclamations of both armies. The meeting lasted two hours, and preliminaries of peace were agreed to.

26. NEW PARLIAMENT OPENED.—This day was looked forward to with considerable interest: the passions of the people had been excited, and their prejudices inflamed, by the cry of "*No Popery!*" Both the *INS* and *OUTS* tried to muster in great force. The opposition had a grand dinner in Willis's-rooms, at which 180 lords and commoners were present. The electors of Westminster also escorted their champion, sir Francis Burdett, in grand procession from his house in Piccadilly to the Crown and Anchor, where he dined with 1500 of his friends. The divisions on the addresses soon attested the strength of parties: in the lords the ministerial address was carried by 160 to 67; in the commons by 350 to 155.

July 2. A proclamation issued by president Jefferson, owing to the affair of the Chesapeake, prohibits British ships of war from entering the American harbours.

5. General Whitelocke attempted to carry Buenos Ayres: each corps was ordered to enter the streets with unloaded muskets. They were received by a destructive fire from the houses, and compelled to retreat, with the loss of 2500 men in killed, wounded, and prisoners. A negotiation ensued between general Liniers, commander of the Spaniards, and the English general, which terminated in the withdrawal of the British armament from the La Plata. General Whitelocke's conduct became the subject of inquiry by a court-martial.

7. TREATY OF TILSIT concluded between France and Russia, the terms of which chiefly referred to their allies. The German territories of Prussia were restored to her, but her acquisitions in Poland were created into the duchy of Warsaw, under the protection of the new king of Saxony. Alexander agreed to acknowledge the rest of Buonaparte's kings and the confederation of the Rhine. Napoleon undertook to mediate a peace between the Porte and Russia; Alexander having undertaken to mediate between France and England, or, in the event of his mediation being refused, to shut his ports against British commerce. All the ports of Prussia were to be closed against England till a general peace.

Aug. 2. A bill introduced by Mr. Bankes and passed in the commons for prohibiting the grant of offices in reversion; it was thrown out by the lords.

11. CURIOUS CASE.—At Surrey assizes a man was tried for a rape on the wife of a publican of Guildford. It seems the accused had clandestinely, and in the dark, in the absence of the husband, introduced himself into the wife's bed, who did not discover the deception till after the intruder had completed his purpose. The learned judge, sir James Mansfield, said this could not amount to ravishment. The woman, by her own evidence, was consenting to the act, although her consent was fraudulently obtained, as she acted under the impression that it was her husband who was in bed with her. He consequently directed the jury to acquit of the capital charge, which they did. The prisoner was indicted and found guilty of an assault.

14. Parliament prorogued by commission.

Sept. 2. ATTACK ON COPENHAGEN.—The expediency of this unexpected enterprise against a neutral power long formed a topic of ardent debate. It was undertaken to prevent the Danish fleet falling into the hands of the French, which was supposed by the English minister to be highly probable, now their influence had become paramount in the north of Europe. The expedition consisted of a fleet of twenty-seven sail of the line and 20,000 land-forces, under the command of admiral Gambier and lord Cathcart. The Danes were wholly unprepared for the attack, and the only alternatives offered to them were the prompt surrender of their fleet to the British, on the assurance that it should be restored to them at the conclusion of the war with France—or the bombardment of their capital. The first proposition being rejected, a tremendous fire was opened on Copenhagen. The cathedral, many public edifices and private houses were destroyed, with the sacrifice of 2000 lives. "From the 2nd of September until the evening of the 5th," says Admiral Gambier in his dispatch, "the conflagration was kept up in different places, when a considerable part of the city being consumed, and the remainder threatened with speedy destruction, the general commanding the garrison sent out a flag of truce, desiring an armistice, to afford time to treat for a capitulation." This being arranged, the British army took possession of the citadel and dock-yards, and the British admiral of the shipping, consisting of eighteen ships of the line, fifteen frigates, and some brigs and gun-boats, which he agreed, upon the part of his government, to deliver up when a general pacification should take place.

After an absence of about two months, the victors returned and entered the harbour of Portsmouth in triumph with the captured navy of Denmark.

23. General Fraser being closely invested by a Turkish force, agreed to evacuate Alexandria and retire to Sicily.

Oct. 18. Owing to an alarm of fire at Sadlers Wells theatre, eighteen persons were trampled to death. The catastrophe is supposed to have arisen from a quarrel in the pit, when the cry of "a fight" was taken for that of "fire."

30. Louis XVIII. landed at Yarmouth under the title of the Count de Lille.

TRoubles in Spain.—An extraordinary manifesto issued by Charles IV. of Spain against his son, the prince of Asturias (afterwards Ferdinand VII.), charging him with a conspiracy against his life and crown. The ground of this charge was a clandestine proposal made by the prince to the French emperor to marry one of his nieces. By the interposition of the Prince of Peace (Godoy, the favourite of the queen of Spain and of her imbecile husband, and originally a private in the guards), the father and son were reconciled. Soon after the treaty of Fontainebleau was concluded between the sovereigns of France and Spain, by which Portugal was to be invaded and partitioned, because of her refusal to enforce the continental system of Napoleon by the exclusion of British commerce. This arrangement was the pretext for the introduction of French troops into the peninsula, and the commencement of many and important occurrences in subsequent years.

31. Russia issued a declaration annulling all connexion with England, and reviving the principles of the armed neutrality.

This month the sheriffs of London, Smith and Phillips, employed themselves in visiting the prisons, and rectifying abuses; also the lock-up houses, which they put under salutary regulations.

Nov. 3. Died, Dr. William Markham, in his 90th year, archbishop of York: he was succeeded by the bishop of Carlisle, Edward Venables Vernon.

4. War declared against Denmark.

9. A robber shot by a party of dragoons, who had long infested the neighbourhood of Chichester, and who had, a few days before, shot dead captain Sargent in an attempt to apprehend him.

11. Buonaparte, by a fresh decree, dated at Hamburg and Milan, enforced with greater strictness his continental system, and appointed residents in the towns under his influence to see that his decrees were carried into effect.

21. To counteract Napoleon's decrees an

Order in Council was issued, allowing neutrals to trade with the enemy on condition of touching at a British port and paying the British custom duties.

A fiddler near Alston-moor, returning home in a snow-storm, took shelter in a hovel, which was soon overwhelmed with snow. Some shepherds heard him next day playing on his fiddle, and relieved him from his perilous situation.

Died, Abraham Newland, in his 77th year, leaving 200,000*l.* in the public funds and 1000*l.* per annum arising from landed property; a large portion of which he bequeathed to his housekeeper, and in friendly legacies to his fellow-servants of the bank of England. He had long been cashier of the bank, and sixty years in its service.

The benevolent society of St. Patrick established at Liverpool.

23. A monument erected on Portsdown-hill to the memory of lord Nelson.

29. The royal family of Portugal left Lisbon for the Brazils under convoy of a British squadron. Immediately after the troops of France and Spain, under general Junot, entered Lisbon without opposition, disarmed the inhabitants, levied contributions, and treated it as a conquest.

Dec. 22. The American congress, to avoid the losses consequent on the conflicting anti-commercial decrees of France and England, passed an act laying an embargo on all vessels belonging to the United States, and commanding all ships from other nations to quit their harbours with or without cargoes.

Sir Alexander Cochrane took possession of the Danish West India Islands of St. Thomas, St. John, and Santa Cruz.

In the sheriff's court lord Elgin obtained 10,000*l.* damages against Mr. Fergusson for *crim. con.* with lady Elgin.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Duke of Richmond, 73, long master-general of the ordnance. His grace first promulgated the doctrine of universal suffrage and annual parliaments. At his house, Edgeware-road, general Paoli, 82, known by his early struggles for the independence of Corsica: he had a pension of 2000*l.* from the English government. Lalande, a celebrated French astronomer. John Opie, R.A., 45, an eminent portrait-painter. In Switzerland, John Delolme, author of a Treatise on the English Constitution. John Walker, 76, author of the "English Pronouncing Dictionary" and other works on elocution. At Rome, cardinal York, 82, the last male branch of the house of Stuart. Dr. Willis, celebrated for his skill in the treatment of insanity. At an advanced age, Clara Reeve, author of the "Old English Baron."



A.D. 1808. SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.—The extraordinary events in the Peninsula made it the centre of political interest. Portugal deserted by her government, and Spain betrayed, the people of each rose in arms in defence of the national independence, endangered by weakness, treachery, and violence. The strange events in Spain chiefly concentrated public attention. Dissensions had arisen in the royal family, occasioned by the sway of a favourite, who for twenty years had governed the kingdom, and whose ascendancy had at length excited the jealousy of the heir-apparent. All the parties referred the arbitrament of their differences to the French emperor. Subtle, ambitious, bound by no principle, and intoxicated by success in every undertaking, Buonaparte sought to make the most of his umpireship. In lieu of awarding the prize to any of the disputants, he first inveigled them all into his power; then, under the mockery of an assignment, seized the crown of Spain for himself, which he placed on the head of his brother Joseph, transferred from the throne of Naples expressly to receive it, and whose place was filled by his brother-in-law Murat. Europe was indignant and Spain furious at these acts of perfidy and usurpation. Disowning the engagements of their princes and nobles, the Spanish people flew to arms; the military sympathised with the populace; those governors and generals whose patriotism was suspected or unknown they deposed or massacred. Success attending their first efforts at resistance, they were joined by the middle ranks; provincial juntas were formed, afterwards consolidated into a central or supreme junta, and before the end of summer the entire Peninsula, from Oporto to Saragossa, was in a state of organised insurrection against the French power. Portugal was freed from the invaders by the British victory of Vimiera. The interest felt in these stirring scenes rendered domestic occurrences of little consideration. All parties united in wishes for the success of the Spanish cause, though some, from misgivings of its ultimate triumph, were less hearty in their co-operation. In parliament the session was chiefly spent in rhetorical displays on the policy and character of the expedition to Copenhagen, and debates on the orders in council, issued to counteract the anti-commercial decrees of France.

Jan. 4. The Lansdowne MSS. purchased by parliament for the British Museum for 4970*l*.

11. A decree, dated the Tuileries, gives one-third of the cargo to any sailor or passenger, who shall inform of any ship that has touched at an English port or been searched by an English cruiser.

21. Parliament opened by commission, and allusion made to the general hostility of every European state. Addresses passed without a division.

A beautiful specimen of virgin gold found in a tin stream in Cornwall, weighing about two ounces.

23. Flushing, Kehl, Cassel, and Wesel, united to the French empire.

28. Thanks voted by both houses of parliament to the officers employed in the Copenhagen expedition.

Feb. 3. Grand debate in the commons on the Danish expedition, on a motion by Mr. Ponsonby for papers. On a division, ministers had a majority of 253 against 108.

8. Similar debate in the lords; majority for ministers 127 against 73. Mr. Windham in the commons, and viscount Sidmouth in the lords, voted against ministers.

10. Hector Campbell sentenced to pay a fine of 50*l*., and to three months' imprisonment, for a libel on the college of physicians.

Russia declared war against Sweden for not co-operating in excluding the English from the Baltic.

18. Russia invaded Finland.

Mar. 9. Lord Folkstone having submitted a series of resolutions condemnatory of the conduct of the marquis Wellesley in India, an amendment was proposed, to the effect, that lord Wellesley had been actuated by an ardent zeal for the public service, which was carried, 180 votes to 20.

11. Died Christian VII. of Sweden, who had long been in a state of mental imbecility.

19. The King of Spain, alarmed by insurrections at Madrid against Godoy, abdicated the throne in favour of his son Ferdinand. At the same time he wrote to the French emperor, stating his abdication to be forced, and soliciting his interference.

20. General Whitelocke, for misconduct at Buenos Ayres, declared, by sentence of a court-martial, unworthy to serve his majesty in any capacity whatever.

24. The grand-duke of Berg (Murat) entered Madrid, and was received with apparent cordiality by the inhabitants, who rejoiced at the fall of Godoy.

April. 10. Ferdinand is prevailed upon by Murat and Savary to leave Madrid and go to meet the French emperor.

11. Mr. Perceval in bringing forward the budget, announced the financial novelty of allowing the holders of 3 per cent. stock to transfer their stock to the commissioners for the reduction of the national debt, and to receive equivalent annuities in its stead.

15. James Paul, esq., committed suicide at his house in Charles-street, St. James's-square, by dividing the jugular vein. He

had lately been much before the public as the accuser of the marquis Wellesley, and as a candidate for the representation of Westminster. A coroner's jury brought in a verdict of *lunacy*.

23. A great part of Bristol inundated by the overflowing of the Frome.

Lord Castlereagh's plan was adopted for establishing a local militia of 200,000 men, to be trained for twenty-eight days annually. A clause was introduced into the mutiny act to permit men to enlist for life, contrary to Mr. Wyndham's scheme of limited service.

May 2. A furious insurrection at Madrid, occasioned by the departure of the royal family for Bayonne, and the liberation from confinement of Godoy by command of the French emperor. The whole population of the capital was engaged against 10,000 French troops, with Murat at their head, and a dreadful carnage ensued, terminating in the defeat of the insurgents, and the disarming of the city. After order was restored a military tribunal was instituted, and several hundreds of peasants, who had taken part in the riot, were barbarously shot.

5. INTRIGUES AT BAYONNE.—By great weakness on one side, and various subtle contrivances on the other, the entire royal family of Spain, along with Godoy, was congregated at Bayonne to wait the decision of Buonaparte. The queen, in a transport of rage, accusing Ferdinand of treason against his father, said, "I tell you to your face that you are my son, but not the son of the king; and yet without having any other right to the crown than that of your mother, you have sought to tear it from us by force." Charles IV. reproached the prince with being the author of the revolt in the capital, and threatened him and his adherents with the punishment of traitors if he did not instantly sign an abdication of the throne he had usurped. Ferdinand replied that he "had never intentionally offended his father, and that if his happiness, or that of the nation required it, he was ready to resign the crown." "Go and do so," rejoined the king. During this altercation Napoleon was present; and before the scene concluded Charles twice withdrew to an adjoining room to report to Godoy the proceedings. Next day, the 6th, Ferdinand signed his abdication of the crown; and no sooner was his father in possession of this instrument than he hastened to avail himself of it by transferring all his rights to Buonaparte, on the two conditions that the integrity of the kingdom should be maintained, and the Roman-catholic should be the only religion tolerated. A few days after the king and queen of Spain, with

Godoy, set off for Fontainebleau; and Ferdinand, without parade or seeming repugnance, to Valençay, where he was received on his arrival by Talleyrand, the proprietor of the mansion. The ex-king amused himself with hunting, of which, like most of the Bourbons, he was passionately fond; and the young prince with embroidering petticoats for the Virgin Mary. Meanwhile, the Spaniards, enraged at the unprincipled intrigues of the French, and unmindful of the example of their degenerate princes and nobles, prepared for a gallant resistance; in two months the whole country was up, from Cadiz to St. Sebastian.

20. Rev. Francis Stone deprived of his living of Cold Norton, Essex, for preaching doctrines contrary to the 39 Articles.

21. The territories of the pope annexed to the kingdom of Italy by Buonaparte.

25. In an address to the Spaniards Napoleon said, "Your nation is old; my mission is to restore its youth."

A riot at Manchester among the weavers in consequence of the scarcity of work, and lowness of wages: the military being called in, two of the multitude were killed, and many wounded.

MISSION TO SWEDEN.—In the course of this month an English armament of 12,000 men arrived at Gottenburg to co-operate with his Swedish majesty, who adhered with desperate fidelity to his engagements with this country. The British general, Sir John Moore, forthwith proceeded to Stockholm to concert measures with the king, whom he found bent on the invasion of Norway. This wild project not agreeing with Sir John's instructions, and the monarch becoming irritated by opposition, the English general found it necessary, to avoid arrest, to escape in disguise. Finding nothing was to be done in this quarter he returned to England without landing a man in Sweden. The infatuated prince soon after committed the political error of disbanding 4000 of his guards on the pretext of want of zeal in the war against Russia.

June 4. The patriots of Cadiz having killed the governor Solano, compelled, in concert with admiral Collingwood, the French fleet in the harbour, consisting of five ships of the line, with 4000 seamen and marines, to surrender.

15. Palafox gallantly repulsed the French in an attack on Saragossa. The defence of this place was one of the most remarkable events of the war; for having no fortifications, except the old Moorish battlements, the conflict was carried on from street to street, and house to house. The most desperate courage was displayed by the women; and, after three months of



unavailing efforts, Lefebvre was compelled to raise the siege.

28. Marshal Moncey repulsed at Valentia, and compelled to retire to Madrid.

July 4. Peace proclaimed with Spain. The Spanish prisoners in this country were liberated, clothed, and sent to join their countrymen; subscriptions were opened, and general enthusiasm diffused through the kingdom in aid of the patriots.

7. Buonaparte's servile junta at Bayonne accepted his constitution, and swore allegiance to his brother Joseph as king of Spain.

13. The heat of the weather exceeded that of 1790. The thermometer at the northern entrance of the Royal-exchange was at noon at 87. The average heat of the West Indies is about 82 degrees.

14. Bessieres defeated the Spaniards near Medino del Rio Seco with great slaughter; the patriots fought bravely—more than 20,000 are said to have been buried in the field of battle. Upon receiving news of the victory Napoleon said, "Bessieres had put the crown on Joseph's head—the war of the Peninsula is ended."

19. Lord Boringdon obtained 10,000*l.* damages against sir Arthur Paget for *crim. con.*

20. Battle of Baylen, in Andalusia, of which the important result was the surrender of a French division of 14,000 under Dupont, to general Castaños.

Sir Arthur Wellesley, with 10,000 troops, landed at Corunna to assist the Spaniards, but was recommended to direct his steps towards Oporto, the whole of the north of Portugal being in arms against the French.

21. Henry White and H. Hart being convicted of a libel on lord Ellenborough in the *Independent Whig*, were sentenced to three years' imprisonment.

22. Murat made king of Naples on the transfer of Joseph Buonaparte to Spain.

29. After being seven days at Madrid, king Joseph was compelled to retreat to Burgos, carrying with him the crown-jewels.

Aug. 4. A grand dinner given to the Spanish deputies at the London-tavern: it was attended by the leading men of all parties, and by the heads of all the great companies, and commercial and banking firms in the metropolis; 400 noblemen and gentlemen sat down to dinner, and the toasts drank attested the enthusiasm inspired by the cause of Spain.

12. Major Campbell having killed captain Boyd in a duel, under circumstances that implied previous malice, he was tried at the Armagh assizes, convicted of murder, and executed.

16. In the case of *Sir John Carr v.*

*Hood and Sharp*, chief-justice Ellenborough said every man had a right to criticise the writings of another, and hold them up to ridicule, so that he cast no personal reflections on the author. If fair criticism injured the sale of a work, it was *damnum absque injuria*. Upon this the jury found for the defendants.

21. Battle of Vimiera, in which sir Arthur Wellesley defeated the French under the duke d'Abrantes with the loss of 3000 men and thirteen pieces of cannon. Junot took shelter in the lines of Torres Vedras.

24. Above 16,000 Spanish veterans, whom Napoleon had led to fight his battles in the north of Europe, upon being apprised of the state of their native country, immediately declared for the sacred cause, and, through the means of the English admiral Keats, 10,000 of those patriots, commanded by the marquis Romanó, were enabled to embark for Spain.

30. Convention of Cintra concluded between Sir Hugh Dalrymple and general Kellerman, by which it is stipulated the French shall evacuate Portugal with their arms, but leaving their magazines, be transported to France in British ships, having liberty previously to dispose of their private property in Portugal. Loud indignation being expressed at the convention in England, it became the subject of a military inquiry; but sir Arthur Wellesley giving his testimony generally in its favour, it may be safely inferred to have been advisedly concluded; and such was the result of the investigation.

Sept. 3. Russian fleet in the Tagus surrendered to the British under sir Charles Cotton, on condition of being given up six months after the conclusion of peace with France.

20. Covent-garden theatre burnt: the roof unexpectedly falling, a party of firemen were buried in the ruins, by which sad accident nineteen persons lost their lives.

25. The central Supreme Junta, which had been chosen from the provincial juntas, was solemnly installed at Aranjuez, count Florida Blanca being elected president. It was acknowledged by all the constituted authorities, and immediately proceeded to the nomination of a council of war, consisting of five members, of which general Castaños was chosen president. The army was divided into three grand corps; that of the east commanded by Palafox; of the north by Blake; and of the centre by Castaños.

27. Conference between the emperor of France and Russia at Erfurth; it continued some weeks, and was celebrated by grand fêtes, and theatrical entertainments. The two sovereigns appeared to have con-

ceived and expressed the highest personal regard for each other. Napoleon presented Alexander with a sword, which the latter eagerly accepted as a mark of friendship, saying, "your majesty is well assured that I shall never draw it against you."

*Oct. 12.* The two emperors addressed a communication to England, proposing peace: it was replied to on the 28th, to the effect that the British government could only treat in concert with Sweden, and the existing government of Spain.

20. The inhabitants of Westminster met, to the number of 8000, to express their disapprobation of "the disgraceful convention of Cintra."

25. The British troops, commanded by sir David Baird, landed at Corunna.

*Nov. 7.* Napoleon placed himself at the head of the French army at Vittoria, with the intent of re-establishing his brother in Madrid.

10. An impostor named Ann Moore is said to have abstained from food twenty months.

22. Battle of Tudela; the Spaniards, under Castaños, defeated.

28. The emperor of Russia refused to treat with the Spanish insurgents, having acknowledged Joseph king of Spain.

*Dec. 4.* Madrid capitulated to the French emperor; the citizens were disposed to resistance, and some of the streets unpaved for the purpose; but their zeal not being seconded by the authorities, headed by Don Morla, the design was abandoned. Buonaparte was now at liberty to direct his attention to the British force, which was advancing towards the capital; one division from Corunna, under sir David Baird, and the other from the Portuguese frontier, commanded by sir John Moore. These divisions united at Salamanca on the 20th, but were compelled on the 30th to begin their disastrous retreat.

On the day that Madrid capitulated Napoleon decreed as follows:—1. That the inquisition be abolished. 2. That the number of convents in Spain be reduced to one-third. 3. That all feudal rights and services cease. 4. That the provincial barriers which impeded industry be suppressed, and the custom-houses removed to the frontiers. 5. That the seignorial courts be abolished, and the royal courts only administer justice. 6. That the civil and ecclesiastical revenues alienated to individuals be received by the state.

7. Died in his 81st year CHARLES JENKINSON, earl of Liverpool, the grandson of sir Robert Jenkinson, the first baronet of the family. The earl had filled several important and lucrative offices in

the state, possessed extensive information, and was the author of an able "Treatise on Coins" and other works. He shared the obloquy of the Bute ministry at the beginning of the present reign, and was supposed to be one of the secret advisers, and to enjoy much of the confidence of George III.

8. Alexander Davison found guilty of defrauding the government as agent to the barrack-master general, and imprisoned in Newgate.

31. First stone of Covent-garden theatre laid by the prince of Wales.

DISCOVERIES AND INVENTIONS.—A stone coffin found in Leeds' church, containing a complete skeleton, that had been buried 700 years.

A complete mammoth was found in a state of perfect preservation on the shores of the Frozen Ocean. It was discovered by a Tungoose chief in the autumn, in the midst of an iceberg, but it was not till the fifth year after the ice had sufficiently melted that its body could be disengaged. The chief cut off the tusks and left the carcase to be devoured by bears.

Mr. Buchannan of Glasgow announced the efficacy of the heat of steam in calico-printing, and in warming warehouses and churches.

Humphry Davy announced some new phenomena of chemical changes produced by electricity, particularly the decomposition of the fixed alkalies and the exhibition of the new subjects that constitute their bases.

Mr. Winsor in his memorial on gas lights stated that they may be advantageously applied to the lighting of streets and for fixed lights in private houses. The cotton mill of Phillips and Lee of Manchester had already been lighted by coal gas under the directions of Mr. Winsor.—*Philosophical Transactions.*

Lithography, or the art of engraving on stone, announced.

Sliced and baked potatoes, which had been to New South Wales and back, exhibited in a sound state.

Sir Richard Hoare caused several barrows near Stonehenge to be opened; in them were found a number of curious remains of Celtic ornaments, such as beads, buckles, and broaches, in amber, wood, and gold.

M. Mollet discovered that combustible bodies might be ignited by the mere compression of atmospheric air.

The stone-coffin and ashes of Offa, king of the Mercians, who died in the eighth century, discovered in the church-yard of Hemel Hempstead. Inscription legible.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—At Roehampton, suddenly, Benjamin Goldsmith, an opulent loan-contractor. John Home, 86, author



of the tragedy of Douglas. Richard Porson, M. A., 49, a masterly critic and classical scholar. At Paris, Madame Cottin, 36, author of the "Exiles of Siberia" and other popular novels. Hugh Meynell, 81, a gentlemen who had been well known in fashionable circles for half a century. Rev. J. Whitaker, 73, author of a "History of Manchester," &c. Lord Dorchester, 86, the oldest general in the service, and well known in the American war as general Carleton. Sir Henry Grey, uncle to the present earl Grey, who was his heir. By the death of the baronet, earl Grey came into possession of estates to the amount of 37,000*l.* per annum, besides a fortune for each of his younger children.

A. D. 1809. PROSPECTS OF THE YEAR.—The diversion of the Peninsular war tempted Austria a fourth time to enter the lists against her colossal opponent, which had no better result than her preceding efforts against the power of France. Buonaparte acted with his wonted celerity and military science. Leaving his generals to complete the subjection of Spain and Portugal, he summoned to his aid the contingents of the Rhenish confederation, and precipitating himself into the heart of Germany, dispersed, in a succession of bloody battles, the Austrian armies. In four months he passed victoriously from Madrid to Vienna, and by the decisive battle of Wagram, in July, compelled Francis again to sue for peace. The co-operation of England was more remarkable for the magnitude of her exertions than the success or judgment with which they were conducted. It was a year of expeditions. Sir John Stuart made a descent in Calabria with a view to shake the French dominion in Naples, but unsuccessfully. The British arms were successful in Portugal, and acquired new laurels by the victory of Talavera. Against these advantages was the serious drawback of the disastrous expedition to Walcheren, which was the more lamentable as the same powerful armament landed in the Peninsula might have driven the French across the Pyrenees. For want of this co-operation the cause of the Spanish patriots had a very discouraging aspect towards the close of the year. Dissensions in the British cabinet led to an overture, at the instance of the king, to the leading whigs to form part of a combined ministry. This basis being promptly declined by lords Grey and Grenville, the Perceval administration was formed as the only alternative. These ministerial changes were preceded by the discovery of gross misconduct on the part of the duke of York, in his office of commander-in-chief; also in the conduct of other high functionaries

in the sale of public offices, and even of seats in the house of commons. The attention of the other house of parliament and of the public was intently fixed on these irregularities.

Jan. 5. Peace concluded between Britain and Turkey through the mediation of Austria.

16. BATTLE OF CORUNNA.—The defeat of the Spaniards and the greatly superior force of the French rendered the retreat of the British unavoidable. From Astorga to Corunna, a route of near 250 miles, through a desolate and mountainous country, made almost impassable by snow and rain, harassed by the enemy, the soldiers suffered intolerable hardships from cold, hunger, and fatigue. Embittered by privations and chagrin the army became disorganised, and by their excesses rendered the people they had come to succour their enemies. However, the French were gallantly repulsed in all their attacks, and after the abandonment of their sick, and loss of most of their stores and military chest, the British, in a very distressed state, reached Corunna on the 11th. Soult took up a position above the town in readiness to make an attack as soon as the troops should begin to embark. On the 16th, the operation having begun, the enemy descended in four columns, when sir John Moore, in bringing up the guards, where the fire was most destructive, received a mortal wound from a cannon ball. General Baird being also disabled, the command devolved on sir John Hope, under whom the troops bravely continued the fight till at night-fall the French retreated with the loss of 2000 men, and offered no further molestation. In this expedition the British army lost their magazines and near 6000 soldiers, inclusive of the brave commander-in-chief, who was highly esteemed for private worth and soldierly qualities.

19. Parliament opened by commission.

23. Buonaparte arrived at Paris, having been recalled from Spain by the warlike preparations of Austria.

27. CHARGES AGAINST THE DUKE OF YORK.—Colonel Wardle, an officer of militia, brought forward in the house of commons a series of charges against the commander-in-chief, to the effect that Mrs. Mary Ann Clarke, who had been in favour, but was now out of favour with the duke, had long carried on a traffic in military commissions, not only with the knowledge, but participation, of his royal highness. He concluded with moving for a committee of inquiry, which, on the suggestion of the chancellor of the exchequer, it was determined should be of the whole house. The inquiry, therefore, commenced at the bar of the house, and lasted above two months.

during which numerous witnesses were examined; amongst whom was Mrs. Clarke herself; and the most extraordinary disclosures ensued. It appeared that this woman had not only considerable influence in the military, but also in the ecclesiastical concerns of the kingdom; having, upon one occasion, placed her own footman as a commissioned officer in the army, and, upon another, procured the honour of preaching before the king for O'Meara, an Irish clergyman. In short, there was hardly any department of the state to which her brokeship did not extend; and the list of aspirants upon her ledger included persons of almost every station in society. So far colonel Wardle established his case; but he failed in showing that the duke had derived any pecuniary benefit from the traffickings of his mistress: he had, however, been clearly guilty of the almost equivalent and reprehensible part of knowingly suffering her to barter the patronage of his office for the support of herself and establishment. Public attention was entirely engrossed with the inquiry, and the house was never so well attended as during its progress, many of the members appearing highly edified by the sprightly sallies of the artful courtesan, who was the principal witness interrogated. Though the duke was acquitted of personal corruption by a vote of the house, the impression of his culpability among many independent members, and the public in general, was such, that he found it necessary to resign his employment. This seems to have been considered sufficient atonement, and the whole business was got rid of on the 20th of March, by Lord Althorp moving that the house did not think proper further to prosecute the inquiry after the resignation of his royal highness, which was carried by 235 to 112. Sir Robert Dundas succeeded the duke at the horse-guards.

*Feb. 8.* James Madison elected president of the United States of America, Mr. Jefferson declining to be re-elected.

14. Saragossa surrendered to the French.

24. Drury-lane theatre burnt down with inconceivable rapidity; the reservoir of water in the roof was powerless in extinguishing the conflagration. It was insured.

28. Lord Falkland killed in a duel by Mr. Powell, of Devonshire: the quarrel originated in his lordship's levity in addressing Mr. Powell, with whom he was on terms of intimacy, by a nick-name, and persisting so to do after he had taken offence at it in a large company at Steven's in Bond-street.

*Mar. 3.* Fire in the quadrangle of Christ-church college, Oxford; damage estimated at 12,000/.

13. Gustavus IV. deposed by the Swedish diet, and his family declared to be for ever excluded from the throne. A new constitution was framed, and the duke of Sudermania elected king, under the title of Charles XIII. A change of policy ensued peace being made with Russia, and English vessels excluded from the Swedish ports.

28. Upon opening the body of a sailor who had died in Guy's hospital, eighteen large clasp-knives were found in the stomach and intestines. The hafts of them were entirely decomposed, and the blades partly so. It seems they had been swallowed several years previously in drunken frolics, and at first without any sensible bad effect.

29. Oporto taken by Marshal Soult.

The loss of the French in the Peninsula, by war and disease, estimated at 183,000 men.—*Gent. Magazine.*

Mr. Whitbread stated in the house of commons that a service of plate, which Mrs. Clarke purchased of a pawnbroker, originally belonged to a prince of the Bourbon family.

*Apr. 1.* The thanks of the cities of London and Westminster voted to colonel Wardle.

2. A lieutenant Sharp of the Bedford militia not succeeding in his addresses to Miss Shuckburgh, first shot the lady, and then himself, in the park of sir S. Shuckburgh, where they were both found dead.

6. The arch-duke Charles issued a spirited address to the army, preparatory to opening the campaign against France. The whole Austrian army consisted of nine corps of 30,000 or 40,000 each, besides some of reserve and the militia. Buonaparte, in addition to the French corps, now congregated under his standard Bavarians, Saxons, and Poles.

11. Lord Cochrane made a successful attack on the French squadron in Basque Road, destroying in gallant style five sail of the line and three frigates.

20. Buonaparte defeated the arch-duke Louis at Abensberg; and two days after the arch-duke Charles at Eckmühl: in these two battles the Austrians lost 40,000 men with 100 pieces of cannon. In five days, by the celerity of his movements and admirable tactic combinations, Napoleon completely broke the power of Austria.

21. Captain Manby made a successful trial of a small mortar, to communicate by a line with shipwrecked vessels, and save the crew.

22. Sir Arthur Wellesley landed at Lisbon to command the British army; the Portuguese to be commanded by marshal Beresford.

25. CHARGE AGAINST LORD CASTLE-REAGH.—His lordship it appeared had en-



deavoured to procure a seat in parliament for his friend lord Clancarty, in exchange for a writership which had been placed at his disposal while president of the India board. The seat however not being deemed an equivalent for a writership (valued at 3000 guineas), and the parties not agreeing upon the difference, the negotiation broke off. Resolutions in condemnation of this proceeding were moved on the 25th, by lord A. Hamilton, which were negatived by 216 against 167. A similar fate attended a motion of Mr. Madocks, who charged Mr. Percival and lord Castlereagh with corruptly influencing the return of members of parliament. It originated a bill, introduced by Mr. Curwen, which passed into a law for better securing the purity and independence of parliament.

May 5. Russia declared war against Austria.

12. Hon. H. Wellesley obtained 20,000*l.* damages against lord Paget for *crim. con.* A duel of his lordship with captain Cadogan, who had married a sister of lady Wellesley, was one of the incidents of this affair: it excited great interest, owing to the romantic attachment of lord Paget, who had in vain sought to stifle his unfortunate passion in the turmoil of the Spanish war, in which, during the retreat to Corunna, from his recklessness of life he acquired the reputation of "a rash and adventurous gallantry."

13. French entered Vienna.

21, 22. Bloody battle of Aspern between the archduke Charles and the French emperor. It was fought in the Marchfield on the left bank of the Danube, two leagues below Vienna, opposite the Isle of Loban. It lasted two days, and the killed and wounded amounted to 20,000 in each army. At the close of the second day Buonaparte was compelled to retreat into the Isle of Loban, where his army was placed in a situation of great jeopardy, the flood having carried away the bridge that connected the island in the middle of the river with the right bank of the Danube. Two months elapsed before he was able to repair the disasters of the battle, and again transport his army across the river.

Rear-admiral Harvey dismissed the service for disrespectful conduct to his superior officer admiral lord Gambier: subsequently restored.

26. Valentine Jones convicted in the court of king's bench of a fraud on government, in his office of commissary-general in the West Indies.

June 1. Professor Herbert Marsh revived the lectures on divinity in St. Mary's church, Cambridge.

A parliamentary report showed that great encroachments had been made in

Windsor Forest: it now comprises twelve entire parishes and extends into five others. The whole quantity of land in the forest, according to the survey and map of 1789, was 59,600 acres.

7. Raab surrendered to the French.

8. DEATH OF THOMAS PAINE.—This celebrated person was the son of a quaker, and born at Thetford in Norfolk, in 1737. Losing his employment in the excise, he obtained an introduction to Dr. Franklin, which led to his emigration to America, where, by the force and acuteness of his writings, he essentially contributed to the establishment of the independence of the colonies. He returned to England and excited great interest by the publication of his "Rights of Man," in answer to Mr. Burke's "Reflections on the French Revolution." In France he was chosen member of the national convention, but offended the extreme republicans by not voting for the death of Louis XVI., and narrowly escaped the guillotine pending the reign of terror. He returned to America in 1802, having a small farm in the neighbourhood of Baltimore, that had been given him by congress, for the services he had rendered in the struggle with the mother country, and which having improved in value during his peregrinations in Europe, yielded him a decent competence for the remainder of his days. Habits of intemperance and the notoriety of his deistical opinions deprived him of the general respect to which he was entitled from natural benevolence and the possession of superior abilities. Few writers have excited greater contemporary interest than Thomas Paine, and he still retains a strong hold of the popular mind; but his political philosophy lies in a narrow compass, consisting of the application of a few abstractions to the complicated affairs of civil society, without reference to the diversity of human character and pre-existing habits, institutions, and associations. This limitation of scope doubtless helped to give point, conclusiveness, and plausibility to theories which were probably corrected in his own mind, as they were in the minds of many others by the lessons of practical wisdom subsequently afforded by the great experiment of the French Revolution.

10. Pope Pius VII. excommunicated Buonaparte for seizing the papal territories.

A parliamentary return showed that there are in England and Wales 3291 livings under 150*l.* per annum.

21. Parliament prorogued by commission.

A loan of 11 millions was this year contracted for at a lower rate of interest than money had ever before been borrowed on the public account. The abundance of

capital consequent on the interruption to foreign trade, and the absence of any cause of apprehension either at home or abroad it is likely contributed to the low rate of interest.

28. Daniel Lambert found dead in his bed at Stamford, where he had gone to exhibit himself during the races. He was in his 40th year, and the heaviest man on record, weighing 52 stone, 14lbs. to the stone.

29. A bottle taken up in Martinique, which had been thrown into the sea in lat.  $14^{\circ} 48' N.$ , long.  $25^{\circ} W.$ , showing that it had been floated by the current 2020 miles in 224 days.

A verdict of 1000*l.* was given in favour of the earl of Leicester against the proprietors of the *Morning Herald* for a libel.

At the beginning of the month sir John Stewart, the British commander in Sicily, made a descent on the coast of Calabria: it was at first successful, but the enemy collecting in force, and the Neapolitans manifesting no disposition to revolt from their present ruler, he re-embarked his troops.

July 3. An action brought by an upholsterer against colonel Wardle for 1400*l.*, for furniture sold to the defendant for the use of Mary Ann Clarke, and a verdict given for the plaintiff. It seems the undertaking of Mr. Wardle was in the November preceding the late investigation into the conduct of the duke of York; which threw some suspicion on the motives and characters of the parties who instituted that inquiry.

4. Three Middlesex magistrates convicted in a penalty of 500*l.* for the false imprisonment and impressment of a labourer.

6. VICTORY OF WAGRAM.—This battle was fought between Buonaparte and the archduke Charles; the loss of the Austrians was so great that they immediately sought an armistice of the French emperor.

13. Capt. Barclay finished his task at Newmarket of walking 1000 miles in 1000 successive hours, not walking more nor less than one mile in one hour. The captain had 16,000*l.* depending on his undertaking, and towards the close appeared to have become partly habituated to his interrupted rest.

20. William Cobbett, the author of the "Political Register," cast in an action at Winchester assizes for an assault on a boy-servant: damages 10*l.*

28. BATTLE OF TALAVERA.—The French, commanded by Victor and Sebastiani, were defeated by the British, commanded by sir Arthur Wellesley, aided by a corps of Spaniards under Cuesta. The action was severe, the loss of the British amounting to

6000 in killed, wounded, and missing; that of the enemy was much more considerable. Soon after the junction of Soult, Ney, and Mortier, in the rear of the English, compelled them to fall back on Badajoz.

EFFECTS OF INTEMPERANCE.—A labourer near Oxford, who had retired into an out-house to sleep in a state of intoxication, was attacked by rats. The liquor and sleep had so overpowered him that he was incapable either of repelling them or calling for assistance. He continued in an agonised state till his groans drew a person to the place, who found a number of the vermin round the feet of the sufferer, seven of whose toes had been entirely devoured by them.—(*Ann. Reg.* li. 288.) A case still more horrible occurred in the neighbourhood of Dublin in the ensuing month. (*Ibid.* 318.) A man inebriated fell from a car into a hollow, where he lay on his face till discovered by a passenger. On turning him on his back and moving his coat, the whole surface of his body seemed a moving mass of worms: his face was much disfigured, apparently from some bruises inflicted either by a fall or a blow, and from every aperture of his head, his eyes, ears, mouth, and nose poured innumerable worms, as if the cavity of the skull was filled with them. His eyes were dissolved, and his face covered with maggots: he was not dead. After some time he was able to walk, and recollect the adventure of the preceding night. The humidity of the air and the heat of the weather had rapidly caused putrescence in the bruised parts lying in contact with the moist earth. Next day the miserable being died, it being impossible to arrest the progress of decomposition.

Aug. 13. A monument erected to the memory of sir John Moore at Corunna, by the marquis Romana, and his remains removed from the obscure place in the fortress, where they were first interred.

15. EXPEDITION TO WALCHEREN.—In the course of the summer was fitted out with great secrecy one of the most formidable armaments ever despatched from the shores of England. It consisted of an army of 40,000 men; and a fleet of 39 sail of the line, 36 frigates, and numerous gun-boats, bomb-boats, and small craft. The command of the first was given to the earl of Chatham, of the last to sir R. Strachan. The chief objects of the enterprise were to get possession of Flushing, the French ships of war in the Scheldt, and destroy their arsenals and dock-yards. The expedition sailed on the 28th of July, and on the 15th inst. Flushing surrendered, with a garrison of 6000 men. No advantage beyond this was gained. During the siege



of Flushing, Bernadotte had arrived at Antwerp, put the place in a posture of defence, removed the ships higher up the river, and collected a Belgic force to resist the invaders. Owing to these preparations, the reduction of Antwerp was deemed impracticable by a council of war, and had the island of Walcheren been forthwith abandoned, the loss of the British would have been inconsiderable. In lieu of which, either from incapacity in the military commander, or from fluctuations in the council of ministers, this pestilential spot was not evacuated till the latter end of December. An epidemic fever, as was usual in the autumn, raged in the island, and of the fine army that had left Portsmouth a few months before, one-half were either consigned to inglorious graves or returned to England afflicted with chronic diseases, in the last stage of debility.

Sept. 3. By the order of Murat, king of Naples, the religious houses in his dominions are suppressed.

17. The new theatre of Covent-garden opened with *Macbeth* and *The Quaker*. The address was attempted to be spoken by Mr. Kemble, but such was the uproar, occasioned by an advance in the prices of admission, that it was wholly inaudible.

21. DUEL OF CANNING AND CASTLEREAGH.—Both these gentlemen having resigned their offices, a personal encounter ensued between them on Putney heath, in which Mr. Canning was wounded. Mr. Canning had some months previously addressed a letter to the duke of Portland, the head of the administration, informing his grace that he should resign the foreign secretaryship if lord Castlereagh continued to hold the secretaryship of war, for which department Mr. Canning thought lord Castlereagh unfit. The duke of Portland, either from not coinciding in opinion with Mr. Canning, or wishing himself, from the infirmities of age, to retire from the ministry, delayed to act on the suggestion of Mr. Canning, though his lordship promised that it should be carried into effect.—(*Ann. Reg.* li. 505.) Meanwhile no communication was made to lord Castlereagh, and Mr. Canning continued to act with him in the cabinet, even while the important expedition to Walcheren was being prepared, without openly avowing any objection to the official competence of his colleague. Under these circumstances his lordship considered that he had been treated with duplicity, and demanded satisfaction.

Oct. 1. Lord Collingwood and sir J. Stuart took possession of Zante, Cephalonia, and the other Greek islands, restoring the Ionian republic.

15. Peace concluded between Austria

and France. Trieste was the principal acquisition of France by this treaty, the chief territorial cessions being made to her allies, Bavaria, Saxony, and Prussia. The brave Tyrolese, who had taken arms in favour of Austria, were abandoned, and their gallant leader, Hofer, expiated his patriotism on the scaffold. A similar fate involved colonel Schill, who had raised the standard of revolt in the north of Germany: he was slain in defending Stralsund.

25. THE JUBILEE.—The King having entered the 50th year of his reign, it was celebrated throughout the empire as a national jubilee, with thanksgiving and other demonstrations of gladness. All deserters and military delinquents were pardoned, and crown debtors liberated from confinement. Divine service was performed in the churches, and splendid illuminations and other rejoicings in the evening concluded the festivities.

30. PERCIVAL MINISTRY.—The death of the duke of Portland, on the 30th, and the previous dissensions in the cabinet, broke up the administration. An overture to the Whigs, as before mentioned, having failed, it became necessary to resort to other materials. Mr. Percival became the new premier, uniting to his office of chancellor of the exchequer that of first lord of the treasury. The marquis of Wellesley was recalled from his embassy to Spain, to succeed Mr. Canning in the foreign secretaryship; viscount Palmerston succeeded lord Castlereagh as secretary at war; and the earl of Liverpool (late lord Hawkesbury) in his (lord Castlereagh's) other office of colonial secretary; the hon. R. Ryder succeeding lord Liverpool in the home department; Messrs. Wharton and Arbuthnot succeeded Mr. Huskisson and the hon. H. Wellesley as secretaries of the treasury. No change was made in the law offices, nor in the Irish government.

Nov. 19. The Spaniards, under Ariezaga, signally defeated at Ocana; the consequence of which was the surrender of Cordova and Seville, leaving the French free access to Cadiz.

Dec. 1. The Spanish junta having become unpopular for want of success, it was determined to assemble the cortes, which had not met for three centuries.

11. At the election for chancellor of the university of Oxford, lord Grenville had 406 votes; lord Eldon 390; duke of Beaufort 288. All the bishops who had a vote voted for lord Grenville, except two, who voted for lord Eldon.

16. The O. P. riots at Covent-garden theatre, which had been sturdily kept up for months, terminated. It was settled that the boxes should continue at 7s.; that the

pit should be lowered to the old price of 3s. 6d.; and the private boxes thrown open to the public. An increase in the prices of admission had been demanded on the ground of improvements in the new theatre, and had been chiefly resisted on account of the monopoly of the patent theatres.

17. The empress Josephine divorced from Buonaparte: as the marriage had never been solemnised except as a civil contract, the dissolution was more feasible.

25. The evacuation of Walcheren completed, after destroying the basin, arsenal, and fortifications of Flushing.

30. NEW MILITARY REGULATIONS.—No officer to be promoted to the rank of captain until he has been three years a subaltern. No officer to be a major until he has been seven years in the service, of which he shall have been at least two years a captain; and no major to be appointed lieutenant-colonel until he has been nine years in the service. No officer to fill any staff appointment (except aid-de-camp) until he has been four years in the service. No subaltern officer to be an aid-de-camp unless he shall have been present in the regiment at least one year.

A treaty of amity and commerce was this year concluded with America by Mr. Erskine, but disavowed by the British government, on the ground that the English minister had exceeded his powers.

MERINO SHEEP.—A small flock of this description of sheep was procured for the use of the king, by lord Auckland, the British minister at Madrid, in 1791. They excited little notice, and it was not till thirteen years after that they became an article of sale. It is now ascertained that the fleece does not degenerate, and is sold as clipped from the back, at 4s. 6d. a-pound. But we may further observe on this experiment (though the discovery belongs to a subsequent period), that though the fleece does not degenerate, the carcase, which is of little weight, does not improve; so that the farmer, whose remuneration depends on the sale of both, has found it his interest to return to the native, hastened, too, by the large importations of fine wool from Saxony, that have superseded both the Spanish and English staple of short wool.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—William Hawes, M.D., 73, a gentleman long known in the metropolis for active benevolence, and the founder of the royal humane society. Hugh Hewson, 85, formerly a barber in Lincoln's-inn-fields, and the original of Strap in Smollett's "Roderick Random." Earl of Dunmore, 78, father-in-law of the duke of Sussex, and in the female line related to the house of Stuart. David Barclay, 81, a grandson of the author of the

"Apology for the Quakers," and lately an eminent merchant in the city. Matthew Boulton, 81, one of the proprietors of the famous Soho manufactory, and successful cultivator of the useful arts. John Henry Petty, marquis of Lansdowne, 44: his lordship was succeeded in his title and estates by his brother, lord Henry Petty, late chancellor of the exchequer. Sir Frederick Morton Eden, diplomatist, and author of a valuable "History of the Poor." J. Haydn, 76, the celebrated musical composer. Thomas Eccleston, of Scarisbrook, a successful improver of the agriculture of Lancashire. Anna Seward, 66, a lady of Lichfield, distinguished for literary talents. In the public hospital, at Kingston, Jamaica, and buried at the expense of the parish, Robert Hepburn Ker, formerly a baker in that city, and who by a late decision of the house of lords was found entitled to the dukedom of Roxburgh, and 100,000*l.* in the funds.

A.D. 1810. COMMERCE AND PUBLIC CREDIT.—The exclusion of British commodities from the continent and the united states of America began to produce a sensible effect on the staple interests of the empire. In several of the principal branches of national industry, especially in the cotton manufacture, there was great stagnation of demand, of which the consequences were numerous and extensive failures. The rate of exchange in foreign markets had become from 15 to 20 per cent. against this country. A rapid and unexampled rise had taken place in prices, not from the briskness of trade, but the extremely artificial state of the currency. Gold coins had almost wholly disappeared from the circulation: guineas were regularly sold at prices above their legal denomination, and paper currency was the only medium employed in commercial transactions and dealings of all kinds. The price of gold had risen from 3*l.* 17*s.* per ounce in bank notes to 4*l.* 12*s.* (*Annual Register*, lii. 126.) The rise in prices, or the depreciation in the currency, produced severe distress among the numerous classes living on wages and fixed incomes; it also lowered the exchangeable value of the public taxes, and the government loan fell so much below par, that some melancholy catastrophes followed among the contractors. These monetary derangements were brought under the notice of the house of commons by Mr. Horner, and became the subject of an able report. In this report the rise of prices and fall in the exchanges is traced to the redundant issue of an inconvertible paper money, for which the remedy suggested is the resumption of payments in specie by the bank of England. Besides commercial embarrassments, the chief topics



of parliamentary discussion were the late expedition to the Scheldt, and a pertinacious struggle about the exercise of the privileges of the house of commons. Abroad, there were no events of striking importance. The struggles against French aggression in Spain had dwindled down on the side of the patriots to a partizan war, carried on by parties of *guerillas*, headed by Mina, El Empecinado, and other adventurous chiefs. The French, under Marshal Massena, overran Portugal, till their progress was arrested by lord Wellington, at the impregnable lines of Torres Vedras. A new scene of interest arose in South America; some of the transatlantic provinces of Spain proclaiming their independence of the mother country. The Spanish colonists were now found to be divided into two parties; the royalists, who adhered to the government, acting in the name of Ferdinand VII., and the republicans, who sought for independence on the plan of the United States.

Jan. 3. At the mansion-house, Mr. De Yonge was charged, under a statute of Edward VI., with selling guineas at 22s. 6d. each, 1s. 6d. above their legal price. See July 4, 1811.

6. Peace between France and Sweden.

18. Mr. Lyon Levy, an eminent Jewish dealer in diamonds, threw himself from the top of the Monument, and was killed on the spot.

23. PARLIAMENT opened by commission: the disasters of the past year were adverted to, and sought to be extenuated.

26. Lord Porchester's motion, in the house of commons, for an inquiry into the expedition to Walcheren, carried by 195 to 186.

Feb. 4. Died, in his 79th year, WILLIAM CAVENDISH, who distinguished himself by important discoveries in natural philosophy, especially the composition of water; by improvements in the eudiometer, and endeavours to ascertain the mean density of the earth. Mr. Cavendish was little known in the busy world, his life being spent in reading, study, and in experiments. He was great uncle to the present duke of Devonshire, and left funded property to the amount of 1,200,000*l*.

5. General Beckwith and admiral A. Cochrane took the island of Guadaloupe, the last possession of the French in the West Indies.

7. Captain Lake dismissed the king's service for putting a seaman ashore on the desolate island of Sombroso.

11. The spire of St. Nicholas church, Liverpool, fell through the roof, killing 27 persons.

17. The Dutch settlement of Amboyna surrendered to a British force from Madras.

21. PRIVILEGE OF PARLIAMENT.—Pending the inquiry into the expedition to Walcheren, the house of commons became involved in a series of contests that did not exalt its reputation for wisdom. During the inquiry, Mr. Yorke, having from day to day enforced the standing order of the house for the exclusion of strangers, Mr. Sheridan moved its revision, when Mr. Windham took occasion to inveigh against the reporters for the press, which was replied to by Mr. Stephens, who had once belonged to this 'useful class. This discussion originated another outside the house, at a debating society called the *British Forum*, where a question was propounded,—“Which was a greater outrage on the public feeling, Mr. Yorke's enforcement of the standing order to exclude strangers from the house of commons, or Mr. Windham's attack on the press?” and it being unanimously carried against the former, the result was announced in a placard. This was brought before the house as an infringement of their privileges, being a comment on their proceedings, in contravention, as alleged, of the Bill of Rights. Upon this John Gale Jones, who acknowledged himself the author of the obnoxious placard, was committed to Newgate. Sir Francis Burdett next entered the lists: he denied the right of the house to imprison Mr. Jones, and published his argument, with his name affixed, in Cobbett's *Weekly Register* of March 24th. Pleased with the higher game, the house instantly fell upon the baronet, who was ordered to be committed to the tower, the speaker issuing his warrant for the purpose to the sergeant-at-arms. On the arrival of this officer at the house of sir Francis, he was informed that the legality of the speaker's warrant was denied, and that the baronet would not submit to it unless he were compelled to do so by force. A pause ensued in consequence of the doubts of the speaker regarding the extent of his powers; but these being obviated by the opinion of the attorney-general, the house of sir Francis was violently entered by the sergeant-at-arms, and the baronet forcibly conveyed to the tower. As the soldiery which had conducted the captive to his destination were returning, they were violently assailed by the multitude with stones and other missiles, when the military firing, three of the rioters were killed. On one victim the coroner's inquest returned a verdict of *wilful murder* against some persons unknown. Subsequently sir Francis brought actions at law against the speaker for issuing his warrant, against the sergeant-at-arms for executing it, and against the constable of the tower for detaining him in custody, but he failed in all; the courts of

law, after ponderous legal disputation, refusing to take cognizance of the questions at issue. During his incarceration the baronet was cheered by numerous approving addresses, and at the end of the session he was suffered to return to his house, which he did privately by water, to avoid the risk of popular tumult; though somewhat inconsistently with this pretext\* sir Francis, without communicating his intention to his friends, suffered them to make preparations for a grand procession through the metropolis, which actually took place. Mr. Jones claimed a right to a trial, and refused to leave Newgate, but was got out by a stratagem, loudly complaining of the grievance of being both illegally imprisoned and illegally thrust out of prison.

24. Mr. Perry, proprietor of the *Morning Chronicle*, tried and acquitted in the court of king's bench. He conducted his own defence, on the charge of having published a libel, copied from the *Examiner*, reflecting on the king's character.

28. A general fast-day.

Mar. 2. A vote of censure passed the house of commons, on the conduct of the earl of Chatham, he having made a private communication to the king, without the intervention of a responsible minister, impugning the conduct of the navy in the Walcheren expedition. His lordship, in consequence, thought fit to resign his office of master-general of the ordnance.

16. Hanover annexed to Westphalia.

21. Lord Porchester moved, in the house of commons, a series of resolutions, strongly condemning the management of the Walcheren expedition. The debate continued by adjournment four days, and the house did not divide till the 30th, when there appeared for the resolutions 227, against them 275. Two amendments were then moved by general Crawford. The first, approving the conduct of ministers with regard to the policy of the expedition, was carried by 272 to 232; the second, approving the non-evacuation of Walcheren was also carried by 255 against 232.

Apr. 1. Buonaparte married to the arch-duchess Maria Louisa: on the 27th the bride and bridegroom set out on a tour through the northern departments.

6. Riots in London on account of the arrest and the sending of sir Francis Burdett to the tower.

11. A proclamation, offering a reward of 500*l.* for the apprehension of any person who had been concerned in firing at the military.

17. A petition agreed to in the city of Westminster, occasioned by the imprisonment of sir F. Burdett, in which the electors reminded the house of commons of their refusal to inquire into the conduct of Mr.

Percival and lord Castlereagh, when charged with the sale of seats in the house, and with the avowal in the house that such practices were as notorious as "the sun at noon-day;"—practices, at the bare mention of which the speaker declared, that our "ancestors would have startled with indignation." A petition of similar tenor was agreed to by the Middlesex freeholders, but the house refused to receive either.

May 1. The American congress passed an act providing that if either Britain or France modified its edicts, so that they ceased to violate the neutral commerce of the United States, and if the other should not within three months after do the same, the non-intercourse act should cease with regard to the first nation, but remain in force with regard to the second: in consequence, the French revoked their edicts, and the American ports were opened to them in November.

9. News arrived that the Caraccas had declared themselves independent of Old Spain: it was the beginning of a series of revolutions that extended and long continued through the whole of Spanish America.

17. DEATH OF W. WINDHAM, M.P.—This gentleman was in his 60th year, and of considerable eminence in public life, but more remarkable for the novel and honest ardency of his opinions, than their political or philosophical accuracy. Abandoning some of his old confederates in politics, he joined, along with Mr. Burke and others of the practical school of politicians, Mr. Pitt, in opposing the speculative doctrines of the French revolution. He sided with the Grenvilles in reprobating the ephemeral peace of Amiens; and, on the return of that party to power, he again became secretary-at-war. Mr. Windham's eloquence was interesting from its point, raciness, and idiomatic force.

21. Mr. Brand's motion for an inquiry into the state of the parliamentary representation negatived by 234 to 115.

29. The crown prince of Sweden died suddenly while reviewing some regiments of cavalry. The populace, without reason, suspected he was poisoned, and in their fury murdered count Fersen, the marshal of the kingdom.

31. DUKE OF CUMBERLAND.—An extraordinary attempt was made upon the person of his royal highness, while asleep in bed. He received several blows about the head with a sabre, from an unknown hand, and jumping up to give an alarm he was followed by the assassin, who cut him across the thighs. Sellis, an Italian valet of the duke, and his supposed assailant, was found locked in his own room, with his throat cut, and spots of blood leading to his apartment. Next day a coroner's inquest was



held on the body of Sellis, which, after sitting four hours to hear evidence, deliberated about an hour, and then returned a verdict of *jelo-de-se*.

June 15. Mr. Brougham, in a speech of great length and ability, called the attention of the house to the attempts making to evade the act for the abolition of the African slave-trade.

21. Parliamentary session closed.

At Auxonne, in France, twenty-one English prisoners greatly exerted themselves to extinguish a fire. Buonaparte, on hearing it, ordered them to be paid six months pay, and to be allowed to return home, under promise not to serve until they were exchanged.

July 1. Louis Buonaparte, not liking his dependent sovereignty, abdicated the throne of Holland, and went to live as a private individual in Switzerland.

At a magnificent fête, given by prince Schwartzberg at Paris, the ball-room took fire, and 60 or 70 persons perished, among them the princess of Schwartzberg. Jewellery to the amount of 20 millions were lost in the flames and in the tumult.

9. William Cobbett sentenced to pay a fine of 1000*l*., be imprisoned two years in Newgate, and afterwards enter into recognizances to keep the peace, for a libel, reprobating the flogging of English soldiers, under a guard of the German legion. T. Hansard, Budd, and Bagshaw, were sentenced to short terms of imprisonment for printing or publishing the alleged libel.

Holland united to France.

10. Ciudad Rodrigo surrendered to the French, with a garrison of 7000 men.

The isles of Bourbon and France, in the Indian ocean, taken by the English.

Aug. 21. Marshal Bernadotte, with the consent of Buonaparte, elected crown prince of Sweden.

27. Almeida, garrisoned by 5000 English and Portuguese, commanded by general Coxe, surrendered to marshal Massena. It was the strongest fortress in Portugal, and would have made a protracted defence had not a bomb fallen on an immense magazine of powder, by which explosion a large portion of the town and garrison were blown up.

Sept. 1. Meeting at the exchange, Dublin, to pass resolutions favourable to a repeal of the legislative union. They were seconded by Mr. O'Connell, and most of the speakers seemed to assent to his opinion that Catholic emancipation was an object secondary to that of a separation of the two kingdoms.

17. A body of Neapolitan troops debarked in Sicily, to recover possession of that island, but were repulsed by the British, under sir John Stuart.

24. Spanish cortes assembled in Cadiz, which was beleaguered by Soult, and almost the only place of consequence in possession of the patriots.

27. Battle of Sierra Busaco; the French, commanded by Massena, gallantly repulsed, with the loss of 2000 men, by the Anglo-Portuguese army, commanded by lord Wellington.

28. Mr. Abraham Goldsmid found dead, with a pistol grasped in his hand, in his grounds at Morden-house. He had speculated largely with sir Francis Baring in the government loan of 14 millions, and omnium falling to a considerable discount, he was unable to bear the loss.

Oct. 9. Lord Wellington retreated to the fortified line of Torres Vedras, 30 miles from Lisbon. Massena coming up, reconnoitred the position, and finding it unsailable, fixed his head-quarters at Santarem; the two armies remaining inactive till the end of the year.

31. The court of common council of London resolved to place in the council chamber a statue of George III., commemorative of the blessings they had enjoyed under his long and prosperous reign.

Nov. 1. Mr. Ryder, the home-secretary, informed the lord mayor of the king's indisposition, and that as his successor could not be submitted for the royal approbation, it was expected his lordship would continue to discharge the duties of his office.

A man committed to Newgate, by the property-tax commissioners, for the non-payment of 3*l*., rated and assessed upon him.

2. Died in her 28th year, after a protracted illness, princess Amelia, youngest daughter of the king.

26. John Gale Jones sentenced to 12 months imprisonment in Cold Bath Fields, and to find heavy securities to keep the peace.

Dec. 3. A fire at the Mexican coffee-house, Leicester square: the proprietor and his wife perished in the flames.

General John Abercrombie, with a body of 9000 troops from the Cape of Good Hope, obtained possession of the French island of Mauritius.

11. Nineteen journeymen printers of the *Times* office, convicted of a conspiracy against their employer, sentenced to various terms of imprisonment in Newgate, from two years to nine months.

18. Lucien Buonaparte and family landed at Plymouth: his baggage and that of his attendants weighed thirty-three tons.

20. KING'S INDISPOSITION.—The king's mental disorder continuing, Mr. Percival submitted three resolutions to the house of commons for supplying the deficiency in the executive power. They were of the

same import as those introduced by Mr. Pitt on a like occurrence in 1788-9; affirming, 1, the incapacity of the king; 2, the right of the two houses to supply the defect; 3, the necessity of determining upon the means of giving the royal assent to a bill for this purpose. The opposition on this occasion waving any declaration of the *right* of the prince of Wales to the regency, Mr. Ponsonby merely moved an amendment that the prince be addressed to take upon him the executive duties. It was rejected by 269 votes against 157. In the lords the same resolutions and a similar amendment were moved, which last was rejected by 100 against 74.

24. St. Paul's cathedral robbed of the whole of the church service of plate weighing 1760 ounces.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—At Paris, in great indigence, the celebrated Paul Benfield: he returned from India with a fortune of half a million. Chevalier D'Eon, who had assumed the dress of a female, though found at his death a male (*ante p.* 506). Mrs. Trimmer, 69, author of many popular works intended for the moral and religious instruction of the juvenile classes. Tiberius Cavallo, 61, F.R.S., eminent cultivator of natural philosophy. Caleb Whiteford, 76, a gentleman of wit described in Dr. Goldsmith's "Retaliation." On board the *Ville de Paris* flag ship, admiral lord Collingwood, 60: worn out with the toils of a seafaring life, this excellent man and officer expired just as he was about returning home for the recovery of his health. At Leigh, in Kent, sir Francis Baring, 74, the successful merchant, and considered one of the "strongest links of Mr. Pitt's monied aristocracy." In Charles-street, Berkeley-square, by shooting himself, Francis Baring, esq., second son of John Baring, esq., of Mount Radford, near Exeter: pecuniary embarrassment the alleged cause of his suicide.

A.D. 1811. COMMENCEMENT OF THE REGENCY.—Although the present year was not marked with the rise or downfall of states, it was signalled by many events of importance. The long reign of George III. had virtually closed; the regal functions were vested during the remainder of the sovereign's life by legislative act in the heir apparent, at first with limited powers, and afterwards in full sovereignty. No change either in the policy of government, or in its responsible ministers, followed this transfer of the executive power. Among the minor occurrences of the first year of the regency was the revival of catholic agitation in Ireland, and of their claims for an equality of civil rights with their protestant fellow-subjects. An unsuccessful attempt was made in England

to abridge the liberty of the dissenters under the specious pretext of excluding from the ministry the profligate and illiterate. But the chief topic of parliamentary discussion was the depreciation of the currency: on this question alone almost the entire month of May was consumed in long and anxious debates. The press groaned under the weight of pamphlets and periodicals, that almost hourly issued on the affirmative and negative side. Notwithstanding all the light shed on this intricate subject within and without the walls of parliament, the house of commons committed the mistake of denying the conclusion of the bullionists of a depreciation in paper money, though attested by palpable facts and obvious principles. Abroad, the restless energies of the French emperor were occupied in perfecting his continental system—in vain efforts to exclude British commerce—in the settlement of the Gallican church, disturbed by the contumacy of his bishops and the pope—and, in a tour to Holland, Amsterdam was declared to be the third city of the empire—Rome being the second, and Paris the first. In the Peninsula the war exhibited an alternation of victory and defeat to the contending parties. The Guerillas were troublesome to the French, who, however, succeeded in making themselves masters of nearly all the cities (Cadiz excepted) and strong places in Spain. Portugal was the chief scene of their disasters and humiliation. Conducted by lord Wellington, the British proved themselves not less able to win battles by land than sea. The appointment of this general in the course of the year to be commander-in-chief of the Anglo-Portuguese armies, and the introduction into the latter of better discipline and organization held out the promise of future victories.

Jan. 1. Hamburgh annexed to France.

8. The Thames nearly frozen, and the northern roads almost impassable by snow.

Feb. 5. REGENCY ACT.—By this act, which became law on the 5th, the regency was vested in the prince of Wales, under certain restrictions: he was restrained from creating peers, and from granting offices in reversion, or places and pensions, for a longer term than during the royal pleasure; the management of the king's household was vested in the queen, and regulations made respecting the king's private property. The restrictions were to continue till after February 1, 1812. Considering himself merely *locum tenens*, in the interim the prince declined making any change in the administration, or to accept any grant for an establishment in virtue of his new functions.

7. Judgment passed on Mr. Finnerty for a



libel, charging lord Castlereagh with cruelty in Ireland, by which he was condemned to an imprisonment of eighteen months in Lincoln gaol.

It appears since the reduction in the duty on whisky 60,000 gallons of that spirit are weekly retailed in 1200 licensed dram-shops in Dublin.

18. Died at his apartments at Paddington, in a state of mental phrenzy, the duke of Albuquerque, ambassador from Spain. Chagrin at the misfortunes of his country, and some undeserved treatment he had received from the Spanish junta, are supposed to have produced this catastrophe.

Mar. 1. Commercial distress continuing to increase, the chancellor of the exchequer moved for the appointment of a parliamentary committee to inquire into its causes. On the 7th the committee made a report, ascribing chief part of the distress to excess of shipment of British manufactures to south America, the returns for which being principally in West India produce, there was no means in the present state of trade of realising them. An advance to the mercantile interest of six millions of exchequer bills was recommended, to be repaid by quarterly instalments; but the security required being onerous, only a portion of this advance was ever applied for.

3. WELLESLEY POLE'S CIRCULAR.—The affairs of Ireland which, since the Union, had had less prominence in the imperial parliament, again claimed anxious attention. The roman catholics, with the view of prosecuting their claims, determined on forming in Dublin a standing delegation, consisting of ten persons elected from each county, charged with the business of acting for the whole body, in seeking the redress of grievances. This kind of organization alarmed the Irish government, and the chief secretary issued a circular letter to the magistrates, enjoining them to prevent the contemplated meeting of the catholic committee. This circular became the subject of parliamentary discussion on the 3rd, of which the consequence was, the withdrawal of the circular and the issuing of a proclamation having the same object, the enforcement of the convention act. Under this act several gentlemen were apprehended, tried, and acquitted. In October the catholic committee, to the number of 300, assembled, with the earl of Fingal in the chair, and voted a petition to parliament; but upon re-assembling, December 23rd, they were formally dispersed by a magistrate.

5. BATTLE OF BAROSSA.—A British force detached from the garrison of Cadiz, commanded by general Graham, defeated two divisions of marshal Victor's army.

The action was severe, the loss of the enemy amounting to 3000 killed, wounded, and prisoners; that of the English, 1243. Both the English general and his troops were highly applauded for the spirit and ability displayed in this encounter.

RETREAT OF THE FRENCH.—Massena, finding it difficult to subsist his army in a devastated country, and despairing of driving "the English into their native element," began his retreat from Santarem, abandoning part of his baggage and heavy artillery. He retired towards the Mondego, marching in one solid mass, with his rear covered by one or two divisions, which successively occupied the strong posts offered by the nature of the country. He thus preserved his army from any great disaster, though watchfully and vigorously pursued by lord Wellington.

10. Badajoz surrendered to the French with a garrison of more than 7000 men. Lord Wellington, who was preparing to raise the siege, was much chagrined: writing to the regency of Portugal, he said, "The Spanish nation has lost in the course of two months the fortresses of Tortosa, Olivenza, and Badajoz, without any sufficient cause; at the same time marshal Soult with a corps of troops, which was never supposed to exceed 20,000 men, besides the capture of the two last places, has made prisoners and destroyed above 22,000 Spanish troops."

14. Died in his 76th year, the duke of GRAFTON. In the early part of the present reign his grace had possessed a large share of notoriety through the attacks of Wilkes and the invectives of Junius. Subsequently he distinguished himself by his steady opposition to the American war, and the revolutionary war with France. At a late period of life he determined, with a mind perfectly unshackled and influenced solely by regard to truth, to enter on a course of theological studies, which terminated in his becoming a unitarian.

19. The bank gave notice that it would receive in payment all dollars taken at the rate of 5s. 6d. each, instead of 5s. This had become necessary to prevent their withdrawal from circulation, owing to the rise in the price of silver.

20. The empress of France delivered of a son, who was created king of Rome. The discharge of 101 pieces of artillery announced the occurrence to the Parisians, who rent the air with acclamations. The emperors of Russia and Austria, and most of the continental states sent ambassadors extraordinary to congratulate Napoleon. Ground was soon after purchased near the Pont de Jena, to erect a superb palace, to be called the *Palace of the King of Rome*.

25. Buonaparte issued a decree, enjoin-

ing the culture of the beet-root, and the plant woad, to supply the place of the sugar cane, and indigo: the success of the experiment was anticipated with so much confidence, that the prohibition of the sugar and indigo of the Indies, or English commodities, was announced for January 1st, 1813.

26. At the election of chancellor for the university of Cambridge, the duke of Gloucester had 470 votes, the duke of Rutland 356.

27. The Danes repulsed by the British in a bold but ill-conducted attempt to recover the isle of Anholt.

Mr. Walter Cox stood in the pillory, Dublin, for a libel in *The Irish Magazine*, recommending a separation between England and Ireland by a French force. He was cheered on coming down by the populace, and the police pelted.

The stagnation of trade having thrown out of employment great numbers in the manufacturing towns of the west of Scotland, a subscription was opened at Hamilton for the relief of the destitute of that place. They however refused to accept it as alms, but said they would be happy to earn it by their labour. The subscribers accordingly agreed to expend the money in making a foot-path between Hamilton and Bothwell-bridge.

April 27. The statue erected to the memory of Lord Nelson in Guildhall opened to the public: the long inscription was penned by R. B. Sheridan, esq.

May 6. Wellington having blockaded Almeida, Massena attempted to raise it, but was skilfully repulsed at Fuentes d'Honor. The English became masters of Almeida on the 10th, the garrison evacuating the place in the night.

8. It appears that the manufacture of woollen cloth in the west-riding of Yorkshire has decreased in the past year 38,575 pieces. Of 1160 shearmen in the town and neighbourhood of Leeds, 400 are out of employment.

Some of the horses entered to run at Newmarket races were wilfully poisoned.

At Tortola, a planter named Hodge executed for murder, by whipping one of his slaves to death.

9. PROTESTANT DISSENTING PREACHERS.—Lord Sidmouth obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend the Toleration Act. His aim seemed to be by requiring higher testimonials of fitness, to diminish the number of licensed non-conforming preachers of the illiterate class, who, from their popularity, were formidable rivals to the established clergy. But the dissenters took the alarm, and poured in such a broadside of petitions, as overwhelmed his lordship upon the first discharge. Lord Holland

stoutly opposed the bill from its first introduction. He said it proceeded on the error that the right to teach and preach was derived only from the permission of government; whereas he held it to be the right of every man who thought himself able to instruct others, to do so, provided his doctrines did not disturb the public peace.

13. GOLD AND PAPER.—Nearly the whole of the month was occupied in continuous discussion on the state of the currency. On the 6th Mr. Horner introduced the subject to the house of commons in an elaborate speech; contending that paper money was actually depreciated, and the only remedy for which was the resumption of specie payments by the bank. On the contrary Mr. Rose contended that paper was not depreciated, and that if the restriction on the bank was removed, not a single additional guinea would be in circulation. Mr. Horner having moved a set of resolutions founded on his ideas, they were all rejected by a majority of three to one. On the 13th Mr. Vansittart moved a rival and ponderous string of resolutions (*Ann. Reg.* liii. 44), in which he endeavoured to show that the foreign political and commercial relations of the country were sufficient to account for the fall in the exchanges and the high price of bullion, and that it would be highly impolitic to fix any time for the resumption of cash payments by the bank. These passed by a large majority; thus denying, by parliamentary authority, the conclusion of the bullionists of the depreciation of paper; and which was undoubtedly the fact, as guineas were publicly selling for 27s., and landlords, in both England and Ireland, were requiring their rents to be paid in gold, or in such an amount of paper as was equivalent to gold at its selling price.

16. BATTLE OF ALBUERA.—Soult, advancing to the relief of Badajoz, made a vigorous attack on the Anglo-Portuguese army, commanded by marshal Beresford. After a severe, and at one time a doubtful contest, the French were repulsed with great slaughter. The loss of the allies was upwards of 6000; that of the enemy much greater. Six different nations were at once shedding their blood in this fierce encounter; British, Spanish, Portuguese and French, Germans and Poles.

An unfortunate encounter between the English sloop of war *Little Belt*, captain Bingham, and the United States frigate *President*, commodore Rogers: the former had 32 killed and wounded; the loss of the latter trifling. It originated either in mistake, or a naval point of honour not clearly explained.

20. Mr. Percival opened the ANNUAL



**BUDGET.** A proposed duty on cotton wool was abandoned, owing to the opposition it met with from the manufacturers; and no other novelty in finance was proposed.

25. J. Drakard, of the *Stamford News*, for a libel on military flogging, sentenced to pay a fine of 200*l.*, be imprisoned 18 months in Lincoln gaol, and find security for good behaviour for three years afterwards.

June 6. Viscount Milton in the house of commons moved a resolution, censuring the restoration of the duke of York, by the prince regent, to the office of commander-in-chief. It was negatived by 296 against 47.

17. A national ecclesiastical council was opened at Paris, under cardinal Fesch, Napoleon's uncle: Its purpose was the supply of the numerous vacancies in the episcopal order, which the pope's determined refusal to institute the bishops of the emperor's nomination had occasioned.

A female, who had lately been in the poor-house at Bala in Wales, by a decree in chancery obtained the moiety of 150,000*l.*, as first cousin and next of kin to Mr. Jones of London, brandy merchant.

19. The regent gave a grand fête at Carlton-house to upwards of 2000 of the nobility and gentry, including the French princes and emigrant noblesse; rivalling in gaiety and splendour *la vieille cour de Versailles*. The public were admitted for several days afterwards to see the costly arrangements; the crowd was immense, and many accidents occurred; several ladies had their dresses torn from their backs, and were to be seen in groups in Carlton-gardens with dishevelled hair, and divested of much of their drapery, waiting a fresh supply of clothes.

28. The house of lords disallowed the claim of William Fitzharding Berkeley to the Berkeley peerage. By this decision the four eldest sons of the late earl were declared illegitimate, and the title devolved upon the fifth son, Thomas Morton Fitzharding, the first born in wedlock.

Tarragona surrendered to the French.

July 2. **EARL STANHOPE'S BILL.**—A discussion in the lords on earl Stanhope's bill, by which the passing of guineas for more, or bank notes for less than the current value was prohibited. It originated in lord King having demanded of his tenants payment in gold in lieu of bank notes. His lordship said he had adopted this precaution, in defence of his property, from that progressive depreciation of the currency, produced by the constantly-increasing issues of an inconvertible paper money, by the bank of England. Lord Lansdowne proposed that the circulation of the bank should not be increased be-

yond a fixed amount. Bill passed a third reading by 47 votes against 16.

4. *King v. De Yonge.*—Lord Ellenborough announced the opinion of the twelve judges in this case to be, that the defendant had not infringed the statute of Edward VI. in buying guineas at a price in bank notes above their reputed value. Judgment arrested.

24. Parliament prorogued. In the regent's speech, delivered by commission, strong approbation is expressed of those measures which enabled the government to prosecute the war with increased activity and vigour.

Much public indignation having been expressed at the frequency and severity of flogging in the army, a clause was inserted in the Mutiny Act of this year, giving to courts-martial a discretion they did not before possess, of substituting imprisonment in place of corporal punishment, when they should think fit.

The excessive heat of this month occasioned the conflagration of several forests in the Tyrol, with the consequent destruction of 64 villages, and the loss of 10,000 head of cattle.

Aug. 2. A brig arrived at Liverpool from Sierra Leone, owned and navigated entirely by negroes.

8. Eight newspapers suppressed at Paris.

26. **CONQUEST OF JAVA.**—Batavia, the capital of the Dutch settlements in the East Indies, with the whole island of Java in which it is situated, was added to our Eastern possessions. The expedition was fitted out at Madras under the direction of lord Minto, and the command entrusted to sir Samuel Auchmuty. It landed on the 4th, within twelve miles of Batavia, and on the 26th the works of Cornelis being gallantly carried, the Dutch commander, Jansens, agreed to the surrender of the whole island, together with the adjacent one of Madura, leaving not a vestige of oriental dominion to Holland.

Sept. 1. A comet of great brilliancy began to be visible in England, and continued to the end of autumn.

26. A well discovered in the keep of Dover castle, which exhibited a fine specimen of ancient masonry: it is five feet in diameter, and upwards of 400 feet deep. According to tradition, it is the identical well which Harold promised to deliver with the castle of Dover into the hands of William the Conqueror.

28. A pugilistic contest at Thistleton-gap, between Thomas Crib and Molineux a black: the former declared the victor. A French paper, copying an account of this exhibition, said, "Certainly the English

nobility stand alone in their taste for this singular and degrading spectacle."

Oct. 10. At the quarter-sessions for Leeds a poor weaver appeared before the magistrates charged with deserting his wife and family. Upon being questioned he tried to justify his conduct on scriptural grounds; quoting the text that "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself;" thence inferring, that a stranger equally with his own children had a claim to the fruits of his industry. The bench in vain tried to persuade him that his own offspring required his first consideration; he obstinately adhered to the verity of his own interpretation in preference to that of the rest of mankind and the dictates of nature.

28. General Hill, by a forced march, surprised a French force at Arroyo del Molino, killing and capturing 2000 men, with all their artillery and baggage.

Nov. 11. The national society, for the education of the poor in the principles of the established church, instituted under the auspices of the regent.

30. RIOTS IN NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.—In this and the following month the interior tranquillity of the country was disturbed by a series of tumults in the district of the hosiery manufactory. They were occasioned by the discharge of many workmen, owing to the slackness of trade and the application of a wide frame for the weaving of stockings. Against these machines the attacks of the workmen were directed, their practice being forcibly to enter houses and break the frames. The riotous spirit extended into Derbyshire and Leicestershire, though the county of Nottingham was the centre of mischief. The rioters assumed the name of *Luddites* and acted under the authority of an imaginary *Captain Ludd*, which name appears not to have signified any individual, but a secret committee of management. In the ensuing year these outrages assumed such a dangerous character, that the legislature deemed it necessary to interfere with a new law for their suppression.

Dec. 7. HORRID MURDERS.—About twelve o'clock on Saturday night Mr. Marr, who kept a lace and pelisse shop in Ratcliffe-highway, sent out his servant to buy some oysters for supper while he was putting up the shutters. On her return she rang the bell, but nobody came to the door; she went to a neighbour, and they got into the house by a back-way, when they found Mr. Marr lying dead, near the window, with his skull broken, and Mrs. Marr also dead at the top of the stairs, shockingly mangled: the shop boy was lying on the counter with his brains dashed

out, and an infant, only four months old, in the cradle with its throat cut. The perpetrators of this bloody business had been alarmed, seemingly, by the ringing of the bell, and suddenly escaped without carrying away any of the property. Mr. and Mrs. Marr had only been married eighteen months, and were highly respected.

13. A splendid specimen of Parisian typography has been dedicated to Buonaparte. It is an edition of Homer, in three volumes great folio, each consisting of 370 pages with the text only; 140 copies only were struck off. That presented to the emperor was on vellum.

19. Three other murders equalling in savageness those of the Marrs were perpetrated this night, between the hours of eleven and twelve o'clock, in New Gravel-lane, Ratcliffe-highway. Some wretches got into the residence of Mr. Williamson, who kept the King's Arms public house, and murdered Mr. Williamson, his wife, and his maid servant, and probably they would have committed other murders, had they not been disturbed at the alarm given by a lodger, who escaped from a window. A ruffian, of the name of Williams, was apprehended on suspicion, which he confirmed by hanging himself in prison; and he was buried in the public highway.

FRANCE.—The French emperor was this year chiefly occupied in plans for the entire exclusion of British commerce from the continent, and raising a navy that might be able to contend with England for the dominion of the sea. With this object was his scheme of a marine conscription, which consisted in converting the military to a naval conscription, in the thirty maritime departments of the empire. For the purpose of recruiting the navy, youths from the age of 13 to 16 were to be selected and trained to nautical manœuvres, and placed at the disposal of the minister of marine.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Sir Francis Bourgeois, R.A., 56, a painter in history and landscape: he bequeathed the bulk of his property and a fine collection of pictures to Dulwich College. T. R. Nash, F.S.A. 86, antiquary and editor of an edition of *Hudibras*, 3 vols. 4to. Nevil Maskelyne, D.D.F.R.S., 79, astronomer royal during 46 years. Henry Hope, 75, lately a partner in the famous mercantile house at Amsterdam. Mr. Hope in 1794 settled in London, where he lived in a style of tasteful magnificence: by his will he left 1,100,000*l.* to his relations. Robert Raikes, 75, formerly a printer and the philanthropic institutor of Sunday schools. Robert Mylne, 79, architect of Blackfriars-bridge. Richard Cumberland, 80, an eminent writer in verse and prose. Henry Dundas viscount



Melville, 60, lately impeached by the house of commons for mal-practices committed in violation of a bill of his own framing. Dr. Percy, bishop of Dromore, author of "Reliques of Ancient English Poetry." Rev. James Graham, author of the "Sabbath," &c. Sir Peter Parker, 96, admiral of the fleet.

A.D. 1812. FRENCH WAR WITH RUSSIA.

—This year was memorable for the commencement of the decline of the autocracy of Napoleon Buonaparte. By the Treaty of Tilsit, Russia had engaged to shut her ports against England, if she refused her offer of mediation; but though Alexander's mediatorial interposition was evaded by the English ministry, he never entered heartily into the continental policy of France. The English trade with Russia was too important to that empire to be readily renounced. Many of the nobility derived a great share of their revenues from the sale of products of which Britain was the principal market, and its connexion with the mercantile interest of England was extremely intimate. On this account English goods had never been committed to the flames in that country, and British colonial produce was admitted into the Russian ports on neutral bottoms. Other sources of difference arose between the two empires. Buonaparte never for a moment rested from his system of territorial aggrandisement. On the mere pretext of convenience the duchy of Oldenburg was annexed to his northern frontier. Disagreements on these points produced the gigantic contest of 1812, into which the two powers, without any formal declaration of war, sullenly entered with a fixed resolve, on one side to conquer, and on the other never to submit. The results were the burning of Moscow, and the disastrous retreat of the French. In the peninsula also, they sustained great reverses, being defeated at Salamanca and compelled to retire from Madrid, which, however, they soon re-entered. Buonaparte having relaxed his Berlin and Milan decrees in favour of America, the example was followed, June 23rd, by the revocation of the British orders in council. They had produced great distress among the commercial classes; but unfortunately, five days before the revocation of the orders in council, the Americans had, by an act of Congress, declared war against England. The chief domestic occurrences of the year were, an unsuccessful attempt, after the death of Mr. Percival, to form a more liberal and efficient administration; the assembling of a new parliament; and disturbances on account of machinery, and the high price of provisions.

Jan. 3. By a decision of the court of

Teinds, none of the established clergy of Scotland will have a smaller stipend than 150*l.*, and 80*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* for communion elements, besides a manse and glebe in the country parishes.

5. French repulsed at Tariffa.

7. Parliament opened by commission.

8. Valencia surrendered to the French, under Suchet, with 18,000 men, after a feeble defence by General Blake.

16. Mr. Percival moved resolutions for the settlement of the royal household under the regency, by which a considerable addition was made to the charge of the civil list. An additional provision was soon after made for the younger branches of the royal family.

18. Benjamin Walsh, M.P., a stock-broker, found guilty of stealing from sir T. Plumer 22 bank notes of 1000*l.* each. The case being reserved for the opinion of the judges, they determined that the stealing was not felonious: he was of course pardoned, but expelled the house of commons for a gross breach of trust.

19. Lord Wellington carried by storm Ciudad Rodrigo, and for which achievement the cortes conferred upon him the ducal title of Ciudad Rodrigo.

FRENCH EMPIRE.—According to the almanac of the French board of longitude, the population of the French empire amounts to 43,937,144. Of this number 28 millions speak the French language, 6,453,000 the Italian, 4,063,000 the Dutch or Flemish, 967,000 the Breton, and 108,000 the Basque. The population of the states connected with the system of France, in which number are included the kingdom of Italy, Switzerland, Spain, and the Confederation of the Rhine, is estimated at 38,141,541.

In the course of the month France, with 20,000 troops, took forcible possession of Swedish Pomerania.

Feb. 1. Restrictions on the prince regent ceased.

At the Leeds sessions several methodist preachers were refused licenses to preach, as required by the Toleration Act, on the ground that they were not attached to a separate congregation.

13. THE MINISTRY.—For some time the public mind had been entirely engrossed in speculating on the ministerial changes likely to ensue on the termination of the restrictions on the regency. In the course of the month all uncertainty on this subject was removed. On the 13th inst. the regent, in a letter to the duke of York, after expressing his satisfaction with the conduct of, and paying high compliments to his present advisers, declared that he "had no predilections to indulge, nor resentments to gratify;" intimating, however, a desire that his government might be

strengthened by the co-operating of those with whom his "early habits had been formed," and authorising the duke to communicate his sentiments to lords Grey and Grenville. As might have been, and probably was anticipated, these noblemen at once declined forming any part of an administration notoriously established on anti-catholic principles. In their joint reply to the duke of York, they said, "we must express without reserve the impossibility of uniting with the present government. Our differences of opinion are too many, and too important, to admit of such union. His royal highness will, we are confident, do us justice to remember, that we have already twice acted on this impression—in 1809, on the overture then made to us, under his majesty's authority; and last year, when his royal highness was pleased to require our advice respecting the formation of a new government." Prior to this correspondence, marquis Wellesley had communicated his intention of relinquishing his official situation, avowedly, because he found Mr. Percival's preponderance in the cabinet becoming too decided. He now, therefore, resigned the seals of foreign secretary, which were entrusted, on the 25th, to lord Castlereagh.

*March 6.* Daniel Eaton tried and convicted of blasphemy, in publishing some of the writings of Thomas Paine: it was his sixth prosecution, and upon being brought up for judgment, in May, he was sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment, and to stand in the pillory.

14. Treaty of alliance concluded between France and Austria, stipulating the mutual guarantee of their territories, and of assistance in case of attack. A similar treaty with Prussia was ratified on the 5th at Berlin.

18. Public signature of the new constitution for Spain; 184 members of the cortes signed two copies of this instrument, and upon the 20th took the oath of fidelity, in which they were joined by the members of the regency.

19. DEATH OF JOHN HORNE TOOKE, M.A.

—This gentleman had long been known in the political world, and distinguished himself in a newspaper contest with the masked champion Junius. After laying aside his clerical function he attempted to prepare for the bar, for which he was well qualified, but was refused admission to the inns of court. He was a strenuous partisan of Wilkes, though they quarrelled when Wilkes sought to make his patriotism subservient to the payment of his debts, by raising a public subscription for the purpose. Mr. Tooke was an active promoter of the various societies instituted for the attainment of parliamentary reform,

and was one of the accused in the State Trials of 1794, when he conducted himself with spirit and ability. He was twice a candidate for Westminster in opposition to the aristocratical interests of that city. For a short time he was in parliament, but entered too late in life to acquire distinction, and his eligibility was objected to on the ground of being in holy orders. His "Diversions of Purley" acquired him much celebrity as an acute and original philologist. The enjoyment of his hospitalities at Wimbledon used to be impaired by his fondness for personal satire, in which he occasionally indulged at the expense of his guests, under cover of a most imperturbable countenance. He was in his 76th year, and though few men had suffered more from bodily pain, and undergone more enmity and obloquy, he always spoke of life as a source of enjoyment.

26. Caraccas swallowed up by an earthquake: at 4 p. m. the city stood in all its splendour, a few minutes later 4500 houses 19 churches, besides public buildings, were crushed to atoms, burying in their ruins 8000 inhabitants.

*Apr. 6.* Badajoz carried by storm. In the siege of this place the allies, under lord Wellington, lost 4850 men. The French garrison, with its commander Philippon, became prisoners of war.

ATTACKS ON MACHINERY.—The disturbances among the manufacturing classes, which began last year in the hosiery district, had extended into the neighbouring counties. Their chief seat was the cotton district of Lancashire and part of Cheshire, and the clothing district of the west riding of Yorkshire. They had now assumed an alarming aspect; men went about armed and disguised in the night, destroying not only the machinery but the property of individuals. A system of organization and military training was adopted, and secret oaths administered. Near Huddersfield, a principal manufacturer was shot in broad day, in the public highway, by four Luddites; and a mill, defended by soldiers, was attempted to be stormed in the night by an armed multitude: several of the assailants were killed and wounded in the attack. At Manchester, three persons were shot, without any knowledge or even suspicion who were the murderers. There were also riots in the west of England, and in other parts, occasioned by the uncommonly high price of provisions. These outrages were fortunately confined to the country. The metropolis was free from popular tumults, though the frequency of murders, burglaries, and street robberies, induced the legislature to institute inquiries into the state of the police.

30. A drawing-room held by the queen,



after an interval of two years: in the evening a splendid entertainment was given by the regent at Carlton-house.

May 9. Buonaparte left Paris to join the grand army in Poland.

11. ASSASSINATION OF MR. PERCIVAL.—During the examination of evidence at the bar of the house of commons, relative to the orders in council, the Chancellor of the Exchequer entering the lobby about five in the evening, a person named Bellingham fired a pistol at him, the ball of which pierced his heart. He staggered, fell, and in a short time expired. The assassin was found to be a Liverpool broker, who having sustained some commercial losses in Russia, for which he thought the government was bound to procure redress, and his memorials on the subject being disregarded, he had worked up his gloomy mind to the monstrous conviction that he was justified in taking away the life of the prime minister. Bellingham was tried at the Old Bailey, and on the 18th executed: he met death with firmness; was attentive to religious rites, but refused to express any contrition for his crime. The untimely death of Mr. Percival drew forth a strong expression of sympathy, and an ample provision was made by parliament for his widow and family. His loss, however, was more a private than public calamity. He was a respectable lawyer, possessed of more subtlety than wisdom; had been a vehement supporter of the war; was superficial in knowledge, and intolerant in his notions.

15. The government of Buenos Ayres prohibited the importation of slaves; expressing their existing inability to abolish slavery in the state without violating the rights of property, and letting loose on society a set of people debased by their abject situation.

19. General Hill assaulted and took Almaraz.

26. At Felling coal-mine, near Gateshead, 93 persons killed by an explosion of hydrogen gas. On the preceding day, in a coal-mine at Orrel, near Liverpool, ten persons were killed by an explosion.

June 9. LIVERPOOL MINISTRY.—The negotiations which had been going on since the death of Mr. Percival, for the reconstruction of the ministry, were at length terminated. The whigs, by their untractable demeanour, seem to have lost a favourable opportunity for expelling the remnants of the no-popery faction from power, and establishing themselves in authority. After the loss of his colleague, lord Liverpool sought to strengthen the ministry by a union with the marquis Wellesley and Mr. Canning, but these gentlemen were favourable to the catholic claims, and the overture was unsuccessful. Pending the nego-

ciation, the house of commons came to a resolution (May 21st) to address the regent to form a strong and efficient administration; thus implying that, in the opinion of parliament, a ministry should be formed of a liberal character. The task of reconciling the jarring elements was consigned to the marquis Wellesley, but lord Liverpool and the whigs at once refused to succumb to the premiership of this nobleman, who resigned his undertaking in despair, lamenting that "the most dreadful personal animosities," and "questions the most complicated," interposed difficulties that could not be surmounted. Lord Moira was next entrusted with the irksome duty, and coinciding with lords Grey and Grenville in political sentiment, it was thought every obstacle to a final adjustment was removed. These noblemen, however, evinced considerable fastidiousness, if not haughtiness, on the occasion. Not satisfied with the concession to them by the regent of all the leading questions of policy, they claimed to interfere with the royal household, and to demand dismissals there which had never before, under similar circumstances, been required. Upon this point Mr. Canning made a curious disclosure in the house of commons. Lord Moira having put directly to the prince the question, "Is your royal highness prepared, if I should so advise it, to part with all the officers of your household?" the answer was, "I am." "Then," said his lordship, "you shall not part with one of them." (*Ann. Reg.* liv. 90.) This sally determined the prince to retain his old ministers, and in consequence the country, for the ensuing 18 years, continued to be governed by a tory, in lieu of a whig administration. The amusing part of the narrative is, that lord Yarmouth, and his father, the marquis of Hertford—the lord-chamberlain and vice-chamberlain, whom the whigs wished to remove—had intended to resign immediately they had accepted the seals of office. The earl of Liverpool's ministry was constituted as follows:—

Earl of Harrowby, *Lord President of the Council.*

Lord Eldon, *Lord Chancellor.*

Earl of Westmoreland, *Privy Seal.*

Earl of Liverpool, *First Lord of the Treasury.*

Nicholas Vansittart, *Chancellor of the Exchequer.*

Viscount Melville, *First Lord of the Admiralty.*

Viscount Sidmouth, *Home Secretary.*

Viscount Castlereagh, *Foreign Secretary.*

Earl Bathurst, *Colonial Secretary.*

Earl of Buckinghamshire, *President of the Board of Control.*

Marquis of Camden, *no office.*

These formed the cabinet. Not of the cabinet were—

Viscount Palmerston, *Secretary at War*.

Earl Clancarty, *Board of Trade*.

F. Robinson, *Treasurer of the Navy*.

Lord C. Somerset and Charles L. Long,  
*Joint Paymasters-General of the Forces*.

Earl of Chichester and Earl of Sandwich,  
*Joint Postmasters-General*.

Richard Wharton and Sir Charles Arbuthnot,  
*Secretaries to the Treasury*.

Sir W. Grant, *Master of the Rolls*.

Sir Thomas Plumer, *Attorney-General*.

Sir William Garrow, *Solicitor-General*.

Both the parliament and the public acquiesced in the new arrangement, satisfied apparently that the regent had not been to blame, and the earl of Moira, whose chivalry had mainly brought it about, was appointed governor-general of India.

15. Two rioters, found guilty by a special commission, executed at Chester, and eight at Manchester.

16. The total number of incumbents in England and Wales found to be 10,261; of whom 4421 are resident, and 5840 non-resident.

17. At the sale of the library of the duke of Roxburgh, the Decameron of Boccaccio, a single volume in small folio, printed in 1471, was knocked down to the marquis of Blandford for 2260*l*.

18. The congress of the united states of America declared war against England. This determination was carried in the representative chamber by 79 against 49; the votes for war being chiefly from the southern states to Pennsylvania, inclusive; those for peace from the eastern and northern, beginning with New York.

A new constitution established in Sicily, upon the model of that of England, under the auspices of lord William Bentinck, the captain-general of the island. The king voluntarily resigned his authority to his son, as regent. The queen, who headed a party in opposition to this change, and who had wickedly proposed to Buonaparte to make a second Sicilian vespers of the English, was sent into retirement.

22. Mr. Canning moved, and lord Castlereagh seconded, a resolution, that the house of commons would next session take into consideration the state of the laws respecting the catholics; which was carried by a majority of 225 to 106 members. On a similar resolution proposed in the upper house, the previous question was put by lord Eldon, and carried by only 126 to 125 peers.

23. The orders in council of January 7, 1807, and of April 26, 1809, revoked in respect of America, in consequence of the

revocation of the Berlin and Milan decrees. It caused general rejoicing in the manufacturing districts, and an immediate impulse was thereby given to trade.

EXPEDITION INTO RUSSIA.—Napoleon had now fairly entered on his great enterprise. After passing through Dresden, and visiting in rapid succession Dantzic and Konigsberg, he reached on the 23rd the Niemen, the frontier river of Russia. Upon this line upwards of half a million of soldiers were assembled, some thousands of provision-waggons, innumerable herds of oxen, and 1372 pieces of artillery. A proclamation to the army announced the opening of the campaign. Buonaparte told them, in his usual confident and laconic style, that the "second Polish war would be glorious to the French arms like the first. Russia is driven onwards by fatality; let her destinies be fulfilled, and an end put to the fatal influence which for the last fifty years she has had on the affairs of Europe. Let us cross the Niemen, and carry the war into her territories." On the other side vast preparations had been made. Alexander, and under him Barclay de Tolly, his minister of war, a wary and calculating German, directed the Russian forces, amounting to about 300,000. Upon the bank of the Niemen Napoleon's horse stumbled, and threw him on the sand. "That," said some one, "is a bad omen: a Roman would go back." Buonaparte expected and sought a battle; the Russians retreat. Their plan was to draw the invaders from their resources, to make a stand only in favourable positions, to weary them with endless marches over parched and sandy plains, trusting to the increasing difficulties of advance and the inclemencies of the season to stop their career.

30. Mrs. Siddons took her leave of the stage in an address written by Mr. Horace Twiss, after performing her favourite character of lady Macbeth, at Covent-garden.

EXTRAORDINARY CALCULATOR.—The curiosity of the public was much excited during the last three months by the extraordinary powers of calculation in an American child, under eight years of age, named Zerah Colburn. (*Ann. Reg.* liv. 507.) He was altogether unversed in the common rules of arithmetic, and could not perform upon paper a simple sum in multiplication or division, but by an internal operation of his own mind readily solved very difficult questions in ciphering. He not only determined the exact number of minutes or seconds in any given period of time, but discovered with remarkable despatch the square or cube root of very high numbers. Being asked to raise the number 8 up to the sixteenth power, he named the



last result, 281, 474, 976, 710, 656, and was right in every figure. He was asked the square root of 106,929, and before the number could be written down, he answered 327. In numbers consisting of two figures, he would raise some of them to one-sixth, seventh, and eighth power, but not always with equal facility. He had a method of finding out a prime number, or a number incapable of division by any other, in a way peculiar to himself, and unknown to mathematicians.

*July 1.* The prisoners of war in England amounted to 54,517; of whom 52,649 were French, the remainder Danish.

18. Peace concluded with Russia; and by another treaty with Spain, the emperor acknowledged the authority of the Spanish cortes.

22. The count and countess d'Entraignes were savagely murdered at their house at Barnes, by an Italian servant, who immediately after committing the atrocious deed blew out his own brains with a pistol. He had only lived three months in the family, and was under orders to leave. The count was a French emigrant, and distantly related to the Bourbon family.

22. **VICTORY OF SALAMANCA.**—This was one of lord Wellington's most brilliant military triumphs. In their efforts to outflank the allies, the French weakened their left and centre. The vigilant eye of the English general marked the error, and an attack was immediately ordered in force. After an obstinate resistance the enemy were everywhere driven from the field. Two eagles and 11 pieces of cannon were the trophies of victory. On both sides the loss in killed and wounded was considerable; that of the Anglo-Portuguese was 5200; that of the French much greater, exclusive of 7000 prisoners. Marshal Marmont was wounded, and four French generals killed. In the course of the year lord Wellington was appointed commander-in-chief of the Spanish armies, in place of Ballasteros.

*Aug. 12.* The English entered Madrid where they were joyfully received by the inhabitants.

16. The Americans, under general Hull, having invaded Upper Canada, were surprised at fort Detroit, and forced to surrender prisoners of war, to the amount of 2500, to the British, under general Brock.

17. The illuminations in London, on account of the battle of Salamanca, began and continued three nights.

Battle of Smolensko, between the French and Russians, after which the latter continued their retreat, first setting fire to the town. Marshal Kutusoff, who had returned covered with laurels from the Turkish war, assumed the command of the Russians.

19. Conflict between the English frigate *Guerriere*, captain Dacres, and the American frigate *Constitution*, captain Hull, in which the former, after a gallant struggle, owing to the superior weight of metal of the American, was forced to strike.

25. The French retired from before Cadiz, after bombarding it at intervals for two years and six months: the raising of the siege was one of the results of the battle of Salamanca.

27. A combined force, under general La Cruz and colonel Skerrett, expelled the French from Seville.

*Sept. 7.* **BATTLE OF BORODINO.**—This was one of the most sanguinary of Napoleon's battles. The hostile armies were estimated at 125,000 men each. That of the Russians was strongly posted on all the heights, in a semicircle of two leagues' extent, from the Mosqua to the old Moscow road, and defended by entrenchments. The attack commenced about sunrise, and continued till near nightfall. Few prisoners were taken, but the field exhibited the horrid spectacle of 40,000 men killed or mortally wounded, among them forty-three French generals; and on each side 55,000 cannon-balls were fired. The victory, if such it was, was dearly bought, and won by the French marshals. After the battle had raged with dreadful slaughter for some hours, there was a general cry for the guards to advance and finish the conflict. Buonaparte hesitated; he ordered the guards to advance, then commanded them to halt: he said, "he could not see clearly the state of his chess-board; that the hour of his battle had not yet come; that it would begin in two hours." But it never began: he kept aloof from the bloody strife, walking backwards and forwards, in evident mental and bodily anguish, for he was labouring under an attack of dysury. This is count Segur's representation, who was in the grand army. Murat declared, "That in this great day he had not recognised the genius of Napoleon." Ney was furious, and asked, "What business the emperor had in the rear?" Eugene said, "he had no conception of what could be the reason of the indecision of his father-in-law." In the evening of the 6th an express reached Napoleon, informing him of the defeat of Marmont at Salamanca.

15. **BURNING OF MOSCOW.**—After the terrible battle of the 7th, the French were impatient to reach the capital of Old Russia, where they expected to rest from their toils in peace and good winter quarters. About mid-day on the 14th the turrets of Moscow, glittering in the sun, were desecrated. Immediately after news arrived that "Moscow was deserted." The French emperor was incredulous. Murat and his

cavalry were the first to enter within the walls. They found every thing uninjured but inanimate. The only signs of life were a few straggling men and women, mostly drunk, and of disgusting aspect. In fact, the city had been entirely abandoned by order of the governor, count Rostopschin. All that had been left were the criminals and lunatics, who had been set free, and bands of incendiaries. A globe of fire, raised over the palace of prince Trubetskoi, was the signal to commence the conflagration. Immediately a dense smoke began to issue from a thousand places; houses that had been thought uninhabited, the exchange, bazaar, and other public edifices, burst into flames. Everywhere was heard the explosion of shells and combustibles. Russian police-officers were seen stirring up the fires with lances dipped in pitch, and frantic men and women roaming amid the flames with flambeaux in their hands, spreading the work of destruction. Buonaparte, accompanied by the king of Naples, prince Eugene and Davoust, narrowly made their escape through burning streets, and from the elevated heights above the Kremlin, beheld in astonishment the whole extent of the capital around them a waving sea of fire. Napoleon at first had thoughts of stopping the progress of the flames, and ordered several of the incendiaries to be shot; but the plan was too well laid to be frustrated. Five-sixths of the houses of Moscow were of wood, and only one-tenth of the entire city was unconsumed. The terrible catastrophe saved the empire of Alexander, and destroyed that of its daring invader.

29. PARLIAMENT DISSOLVED.—A proclamation to this effect was unexpected, as parliament had nineteen months to run before its legal expiration, and no urgent reason seemed to call for its dissolution. The recent pledge given by the house of commons, to take into consideration next year the catholic claims was the chief motive assigned; but the more probable is, that the prince regent considered his assumption of the full exercise of the regal functions as equivalent to the commencement of a new reign. Whatever was the object the opposition gained no accession of strength by the appeal to the nation. In the metropolis, and the towns of Bristol and Liverpool, the candidates in that interest were defeated. The case in the latter showed the predominance of political feeling over commercial considerations; the electors rejecting the candidate who had been mainly instrumental in procuring the repeal of the orders in council, in favour of him who had taken an active share in their promulgation.

Oct. 10. New theatre Drury-lane opened, with an address written by lord Byron, and delivered by Mr. Elliston.

13. War declared against the United States of America.

19. Buonaparte began his retreat from Moscow.

25. The English frigate Macedonia, captain Carden, captured by the American frigate United States, after a desperate fight of two hours, in which the former had 104 men killed and wounded. Our naval disasters with the Americans were ascribed to the superior size, weight of metal, and number of men in their frigates, which made them equal in force to British ships of the line.

27. A man lighting the lamps on Blackfriar's-bridge was, by a sudden gust of wind, blown into the river and drowned.

Nov. 24. New parliament met, when the house of commons unanimously re-chose Mr. Abbot for speaker.

The Austrian prince of Latour Taxis, in celebrating the marriage of his daughter at Vienna, expended 46,000*l*. The festivities were kept up for three weeks. On certain days the guests took the diversion of hunting, for which purpose fifty of the largest wolves that could be procured were purchased, at an expense of 80*l*. each.

30. Parliament opened by the prince regent, who delivered his first speech from the throne. Amendments to the address were moved in both houses; in the lords by marquis Wellesley, and in the commons by Mr. Canning, but there was no division. A grant of 100,000*l*., to be laid out in land, to the duke of Wellington, the renewal of the gold-coin bill, and of 200,000*l*. for the relief of the sufferers at Moscow, were the chief parliamentary business previous to the Christmas recess.

Dec. 9. John and Leigh Hunt tried by a special jury for a libel on the prince regent, in the *Examiner*; they were defended by Mr. Brougham; but the jury, being strongly charged by chief-justice Ellenborough, they were found guilty. Upon the defendants being brought up in the following term to receive judgment, they were sentenced to two years' imprisonment, one in Coldbath-fields, the other in Surrey county gaol, to pay a fine of 500*l*. each, and find security for their good behaviour for five years.

RETREAT FROM MOSCOW.—The French remained nearly five weeks at Moscow, not leaving it till the 19th of October. This procrastination was the ruin of the army. The Russians were astonished at the apathy with which they waited the approach of their mighty winter, that they expected every moment to set in, and urged them to fly. "In a fortnight,"



they told them, "Your nails will drop off, and your arms will fall from your stiff and half-dead bodies." The novelty of misfortune confounded the French emperor, and he was loth to bend to its stroke. He tried in vain to draw the enemy into a negotiation: his letters and messengers were received, but no answer returned by the inflexible Alexander. Around him the enemy was daily increasing in strength, especially in cavalry, and it was not till Murat had been defeated, and the first snow had fallen, that Napoleon determined on his retreat. The grand army was still formidable. Napoleon had entered Moscow with 90,000 effective men, and 20,000 sick and wounded: he quitted it with 100,000 effective men, 50,000 horses, 550 field-pieces, and 2000 artillery-waggons, exclusive of a motley host of followers, amounting to 40,000. All the plunder of Moscow that could be saved from the fire was carried off, together with the gigantic cross of Ivan the Great, for which the Russians had a superstitious veneration, connecting with it the safety of the empire. Their route lay through 300 miles of country already devastated. The French, not liking the Scythian mode of warfare, wrote to their opponents to carry it on less barbarously; but Kutusoff replied, that "he could not restrain the patriotism of the Russians." From that time both sides burnt the towns they left, to deprive the other of shelter. Disasters soon befel the French. By suddenly taking the new road to Kalouga, Buonaparte hoped to elude his pursuers; but there, to his dismay, on the 23rd of October, he found 120,000 men ranged in an unassailable position. A council of war was held in a weaver's hut, the result of which was, that it was necessary to retrace their steps towards Moscow, and advance by the way of Mojaisk towards Smolensko. This route brought them over the plain of Borodino, where they found the unburied remains of the 40,000 victims of that terrible day. It had all the appearance, says Segur, of an extinguished volcano. A trampled waste, covered with the stumps of trees, heaps of half-devoured bodies, fragments of broken armour, drums, and flags, torn, and dyed in blood. A murmur of horror ran through the ranks, and the hideous scene was hurried over. After passing the Kalouga, the winter began to do its work: alternate frost, sleet, and snow, made the weather insupportable. The night bivouacking became dreadful; every resting-place was a vast cemetery of men and horses. Whole trains of the latter were wont to drop at once in harness: in one night 30,000 horses perished. Overcome by cold, hunger, and fatigue,

the soldiers died by hundreds, or helplessly gave themselves up by thousands to the sword or mercy of the Russians. Travelling mostly in a carriage, close wrapped up, Napoleon escaped many of the hardships of his followers: he hurried forward to Smolensko, in the midst of his guards, where he arrived on the 9th of November, having three days before heard of the wild conspiracy of Mallet, and two other ex-republican generals at Paris, to overturn his government. Immense difficulties still remained to be surmounted, the Russians concentrating at all points to cut off the retreat. On the 21st he learnt that they had taken Minsk and Borisof. He had now, in the face of the enemy, to pass the Berezina, a river of great width, with marshy banks. Astounded by the perils around him, the emperor struck the ground with his staff, exclaiming, "It is written in heaven, that henceforth every step shall be a fault." He acknowledged to Daru their situation was calamitous, and commanded him to destroy all the reports of his ministers, lest they should fall into the hands of the Russians. But by a rare piece of dexterity he succeeded in deceiving Tchitchakof, and passed the Berezina at an unexpected ford, discovered to him by a Polish officer, not, however, without losing nearly the whole of his remaining baggage and artillery. After taking leave of his marshals at Smorgony, December 5th, Napoleon privately withdrew from the army, and narrowly escaped on the same night falling into the hands of a Russian detachment. He reached Warsaw on the 10th, and Paris on the 19th, two days after the publication of his twenty-ninth bulletin. Murat was left in chief command, and continued the retreat to Wilna, from which they were soon forced to retire by the advancing Russians. Fatigue, cold, and hunger continued to the last to make dreadful havoc, and immense numbers perished in the hospitals for want of needful assistance. The Russians never relaxed in the pursuit till they reached the Vistula, and hardly a day elapsed in which they did not make prize of some of the fugitives. Up to the 26th instant, they estimated their captures at 41 generals, 1298 officers, 167,510 privates, and 1131 pieces of cannon. On both sides, including the inhabitants that perished from the burning of the towns, and from the compulsory evacuation of Moscow by its vast population, probably the lives of half a million of adults were sacrificed in this destructive campaign. The grand army was annihilated. Napoleon, says count Segur, entered Orcha with 6000 guards, the remains of 35,000; Eugene, with 1800 soldiers, the remains of 42,000;

Davoust, with 4000, the remains of 70,000. The rest strewed their leader's bloody track from the Niemen to Moscow,—

There shall they rot—Ambition's honour'd fools!

Yes, honour decks the turf that wraps their clay!

Vain sophistry! in these behold the tools, The broken tools, that tyrants cast away

By myriads, when they dare to pave their way

With human hearts—to what?—a dream alone!

20. Napoleon, seated on the throne, gave audience to the senate and council of state, from whom he received the usual adulatory addresses. He reminded them that the rallying cry of their fathers was, *The king is dead—long live the king*. He cautioned them against legislating on the basis of metaphysical ideas, which had done so much mischief in France, in place of accommodating laws to the knowledge of the human heart and the lessons of history. (*Ann. Reg.* liv. 184.)

The mendicity society was this year instituted.

**PATENTS AND DISCOVERIES.**—Mr. Miers of the Strand, for a method of generating heat without fuel.

Mr. Blenkinsop of Leeds, Yorkshire, for a locomotive engine, for conveying coals and other minerals.

Mr. Cooke for a machine to teach blind people music.

Chain cables were introduced into the navy.

Mr. Brande found the quantities of alcohol in different kinds of wine as follow:—Champagne 20, port 20 to 24, Madeira 19, claret 15, cyder and perry 12, ale 9, brown stout 8, porter 6.

**ANNUAL OBITUARY.**—Edward Hasted, F.R.S., 80, historian of the county of Kent. Francis Jukes, 66, the first who brought to perfection the art of engraving in aquatinta. Mrs. Burke, 76, wife of the celebrated Edmund Burke. Andrew Burnaby, D.D., 80; he was 43 years vicar of Greenwich, and author of a book of travels. John Clarke, F.R.S., author of a work on naval tactics, which was said to contain the first idea of breaking the line. Edmund Malone, an associate of Johnson and Burke, and one of the editors of Shakespeare. Richard Kirwan, president of the royal Irish academy, and author of many valuable works on chemistry and mineralogy. George Frederick Cooke, 57, a dramatic actor, celebrated for an original and forcible but coarse style of acting.

A.D. 1813. **LIBERATION OF GERMANY.**—The contrast between the advance of the French into Russia, and of the Russians

into Germany was great. The former was weakened by every forward movement, the latter received an accession of strength. It was force, not the ties of interest or inclination, that held together the several parts of the French empire, and immediately the compression was removed they sought to regain their former positions. Prussia was the first to join the emperor of Russia. The crown-prince of Sweden next abandoned his system of neutrality, and being placed at the head of the armies of the North issued a proclamation, calling on his troops to restore liberty to Europe. Against these three powers the French emperor opened the campaign. He was at first successful, but the issue being still doubtful he acceded to an armistice. At the expiration of the armistice Austria joined the allies, who, having settled their plan at Prague, advanced in full force and attacked Napoleon in Dresden. They were defeated with great loss, and compelled to retreat into Bohemia. But from this time the tide of fortune changed. General Vandamme was surprised and lost his whole corps; Macdonald shared the same fate, and marshal Blucher and the crown-prince beat the French opposed to them. At Leipsic Buonaparte concentrated his entire strength, and was completely routed. At this juncture Bavaria joined the allies, and Wirtemberg, another member of the Rhenish confederation, followed the example. Buonaparte was surrounded with enemies, and with great difficulty he forced his way to Mentz with the wreck of his army. Arriving at Paris in November, he soon received tidings of a counter-revolution in Holland, that Hanover was lost, Trieste possessed by the Austrians, and that the English, under Wellington, had invaded the south of France. The gigantic French empire was dissolved, and Europe emancipated.

Jan. 10. Fourteen Luddites executed at York.

11. By a *senatus consultum* 350,000 men were placed at the disposal of Buonaparte, to supply the losses of the Russian campaign.

25. A concordat signed between the French emperor and the pope at Fontainebleau. Differences had for some time subsisted between them, which Buonaparte, in the existing posture of affairs, wished to conciliate, and he paid a private visit to his Holiness for the purpose; but the Pope subsequently complained of having been overreached.

Feb. 1. Louis XVIII. issued an address to the French nation, calling upon them to throw off the yoke of the usurper.

18. **MARITIME RIGHTS.**—Immediately after the Christmas recess, the papers regarding the American war were laid before



the house of commons. Among them was a declaration of the prince regent, which was important as comprising the principal maritime claims, which Britain was determined to maintain. The points which it was declared would never be conceded were—That any blockade is illegal, which has been duly notified, and is supported by an adequate force, merely because of its extent and the non-investment, at the same time, by land: that neutral trade with Britain can be made a crime, subjecting ships to be denationalised; the right of Britain to search neutral vessels in time of war, and to impress her own sailors found on board. An address was voted on the 18th, approving the maintenance of these rights, and the war with the United States.

22. A bill introduced for the appointment of a vice-chancellor, which had become necessary, owing to the arrears of business in the court of chancery. It became law, and sir T. Plumer was the first vice-chancellor appointed.

25. On the motion of Mr. Grattan, the resolutions for an inquiry into catholic grievances were carried by 264 to 224; but a bill founded upon them was lost, chiefly from the opposition of Mr. Abbot, the speaker.

Mar. 3. Mr. Vansittart proposed some financial resolutions, the tendency of which was an appropriation of part of the SINKING FUND to the public exigencies. This being the first encroachment on the notable provision of Mr. Pitt for the reduction of the national debt, and the chief boast of his fiscal administration, they excited considerable interest.

A treaty was laid before parliament, by which it appeared that the crown prince of Sweden had agreed to join the confederacy against France with 30,000 men, on condition that Prussia would guarantee to Sweden Norway in exchange for the loss of Finland. Norway had for ages been united to Denmark, and had no wish to be so transferred; but England became party to the compact, stipulating her naval co-operation, and also the payment of a subsidy of one million. All Britain obtained for her aid was the privilege of exporting her manufactures to Sweden for twenty years, subject only to a duty of one per cent.

15. An interview at Breslau, between the emperor Alexander and the king of Prussia. The king wept. "Courage, my brother," said Alexander, "these are the last tears that Napoleon shall cause you to shed."

16. Prussia declared war against France.

22. CHARTER OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY.—A great many petitions had been

presented during the session, praying for a dissolution of the commercial monopoly of the East India Company, on the approaching renewal of their charter. On the 22d the subject was brought before parliament by lord Castlereagh. After the examination of witnesses and a long discussion, an act passed renewing the privileges of the company for twenty years, but throwing open the trade to the East, that to China only remaining exclusively in the company. The territorial and commercial branches of the company's affairs were separated. The king was empowered to appoint a bishop in India, and three archdeacons to be paid by the company.

27. Mr. Pitt's monument in Guildhall opened: the inscription is by George Canning, M. P.

The conduct of the princess of Wales became this month a subject of investigation. It was found blameless, and the city of London presented to her royal highness a congratulatory address.

Apr. 13. Sir John Murray, with an Anglo-Spanish force, defeated marshal Suchet, with the loss of 3000 killed and wounded.

15. Buonaparte left Paris to open the campaign of Saxony. He tried before his departure to re-animate the spirit of the nation, by publishing a flattering exposé of the state of the empire, and appointed the empress regent. A great many German fortresses had surrendered to the allies, and Hamburg and Lubec had thrown open their gates.

28. The remains of Charles I. discovered in the vault of Henry VIII. at Windsor, enclosed in a plain leaden coffin, bearing an inscription, "King Charles, 1648."

Prince Kutusoff died: he was succeeded in the command of the Russian army by Wittgenstein.

May 2. Battle of Lutzen between the allies and Buonaparte. The loss supposed to be equal, about 10,000 killed and wounded on each side. Neither could claim a victory, but the allies retreated. On the eve of the battle marshal Bessieres was killed by a spent cannon ball.

5. A bill introduced by Mr. W. Smith, for the relief of those who deny the Trinity: it became a law, and it was a proof of growing liberality that the measure met no marked opposition in the lords, nor from the ministers or bishops; the archbishop of Canterbury merely observing that "the bill had not been called for by any attempt to impede the worship of the unitarians, or to enforce the existing laws against them."

Battle of Bautzen in Silesia. It lasted two days; the French losing 12,000 in

killed and wounded. No great advantage was gained by either side. The students of the German universities, in the allied armies, and the young conscripts of Paris, rivalled each other in valour. After the battle a cannon-ball killed general Kirchener, and mortally wounded marshal Duroc, who was standing near the French emperor. In Duroc and Bessieres Buonaparte lost two of his most faithful officers and attached friends.

31. Mr. and Mrs. Bonar, residing at Chislehurst, near London, savagely murdered with a poker by their Irish footman, who assigned no reason for the deed, further than that the idea struck him in the night, that he must kill his master and mistress.

June 1. Captain Broke, of the Shannon frigate, having perfected his men in discipline, offered battle to the United States frigate Chesapeake, a fine ship of 49 guns, fully manned. The American, nothing loth, bore down on his foe off Boston lighthouse. The ships were soon in close contact, when, captain Broke discerning an opportunity, gave orders for boarding, himself setting the example. The conflict was bloody but short: in fifteen minutes the Chesapeake was mastered and carried off in triumph by the victor.

Breslau entered by the French.

4. An armistice agreed to between Buonaparte and the allies, through the intervention of Austria. During the suspension of hostilities, Napoleon, either to amuse himself or others, or to throw an air of gaiety over the difficulties of his position, sent for the French actors to Dresden, which he made his head-quarters. He had now changed his tastes, seeming to prefer comedy to tragedy, which is easily understood.

21. Battle of Vittoria; the combined force, under lord Wellington, defeating the French, commanded by King Joseph, assisted by marshal Jourdan, with the loss of 151 pieces of cannon and 415 waggons of ammunition. The loss of the allies was 700 killed and 4000 wounded; that of the French must have been equal, exclusive of prisoners. The victory was important in its results; the French, being sharply pursued, retreated across the Bidassoa into France.

July 20. A grand festival in Vauxhall-gardens, to commemorate the victories of lord Wellington; the duke of York presided.

22. Parliament prorogued.

24. The French, under marshal Soult, recrossed the Bidassoa and attacked with vigour the right wing of the allies at Roncesvalles, a place famous in history for the defeat of Charlemagne and all his peers. Although Soult succeeded in forc-

ing this position, he failed in the attempt to relieve Pampeluna, and the French again retreated beyond the Pyrenees.

Aug. 10. The armistice in Saxony abruptly terminated, when Austria joined the allies.

26. Lord Whitworth, the new viceroy of Ireland, arrived in Dublin.

27. BATTLE OF DRESDEN.—Buonaparte had made Dresden the centre of his operations, where he had assembled a force of 220,000 men, that of the allies amounting to upwards of 300,000. Emboldened by superiority of numbers, the allies, on the 26th, determined to carry Dresden by escalade, but after a furious onset were forced to retire. Next day Napoleon became the assailant, marching out of the town and attacking the enemy in their positions. The rain fell in torrents, and after an obstinate conflict the allies retreated into Bohemia. It was on the 27th general Moreau had both his legs shattered by a cannon-ball, which passed through his horse, while talking to the emperor of Russia. He had only a short time before arrived from America, on the invitation of the crown-prince of Sweden, to afford to the allies the benefit of his councils. Moreau survived his disaster only a few days, dying from exhaustion.

31. St. Sebastian taken by storm after an obstinate resistance; the allies under Wellington losing 2300 in killed and wounded.

Sept. 6. The crown-prince of Sweden defeated marshal Ney, with the loss of 12,000 men killed, wounded, and prisoners.

Near four years ago the house of Mr. Smith, a jeweller in London, was robbed of emeralds, rubies, &c., to the amount of 1600*l*.; they were found in this month in a ditch in the Kent-road.

A caravan of 2000 persons from Maschah to Aleppo, in crossing the desert, overwhelmed by the sand, and not more than twenty escaped.

Oct. 1. The commissioners of Public Records discovered the Charta de Foresta of 14 Henry II.

At Pompeii, the portico of the theatre discovered, and many coins of Domitian in high preservation.

5. The allies pressing upon Dresden from all sides, Buonaparte was compelled to quit it, retiring towards Leipsic. Previous to this a French column of 10,000 men, under Vandamme, had been surprised in Bohemia, and the indefatigable Blucher had succeeded in driving back Macdonald and Victor from Silesia.

8. Bavaria joined the allies, by which 50,000 troops were detached from France.

18. BATTLE OF LEIPSIC.—The operations of the war had brought the vast



armies of both sides into the vicinity of Leipsic. The French were estimated at about 180,000 men; the allies at 250,000. On the night of the 15th rockets were seen ascending, announcing the approach of Blücher and the crown-prince of Sweden. At day-break, on the 16th, the French were assailed along their southern front with the greatest fury. Failing to make any impression, Napoleon, in his turn, assumed the offensive. The centre of the allies was broken, and Murat, pouring in with his cavalry, completed the disorder. At this moment Alexander ordered forward the Cossacks of his guard, who, with their long lances, bore back the mass of cavalry, that had so nearly carried the day. Meanwhile, Blücher, with a superior force, had overpowered Marmont, taking from him his artillery and 2000 prisoners. The battle of the 16th did not cease till night-fall, when the French found it necessary to contract their position, drawing nearer the walls of Leipsic. During the night Buonaparte sent general Mehrfeldt, who had been made prisoner, with proposals for an armistice. No answer was returned. The 17th was spent in mutual preparations, without actual hostilities. Next morning the conflict was renewed by the allies, with increased impetuosity. The Austrians, under prince Schwarzenberg, formed the left of their line; in the centre were the Russians under Barclay and Wittgenstein; the Swedes and Prussians forming the right. From an eminence called Thörnberg, behind the centre of his army, Napoleon commanded a view of the field of battle. Till two o'clock the fighting continued, and the inhabitants of Leipsic, from the walls and steeples, could not discern which side had the advantage. At that moment the allies, by a sudden dash, forced their way headlong into Probstsheyda, the central position of the French. The camp-followers now began to fly, when Buonaparte, leading on a reserve of the Old Guard in person, the village was recovered. On the left, however, there had been great disasters: Ney, overpowered by Blücher and the crown-prince, had tried to form afresh at an eminence called Heiterblie; when, just at the time, seventeen battalions of Germans, chiefly Saxons, deserted to the enemy. This loss could not be repaired; and at the close of the battle the French retreated under the walls of Leipsic. Their losses, on the 18th, amounted to 40,000 killed, wounded, and prisoners, with 65 pieces of cannon. Leipsic was no longer tenable, and the French, in the night, began to retreat towards Weissenfels. The king of Saxony offered to treat for the capitulation of Leipsic, but the allies refused to wait, entered the city sword in hand,

and before noon the emperor Alexander, the king of Prussia, and Bernadotte, met in the great square, amidst the acclamations of the inhabitants. Arriving at the Elster, the French lost the whole of their rear-guard, owing to the bridge having been mistakenly blown up, before it had passed; and the brave Polish prince Poniatowski perished in the river in trying to escape. With the remains of his army Buonaparte continued his retreat towards the Rhine. At Hanau general Wrede, with the Bavarians, tried to intercept his progress; after some hard fighting the French forced a passage. November 2nd, Napoleon reached Mentz, with not more than 70,000 men; the remains of nearly 300,000, which he had a few months before led to the Elbe and the Oder.

Nov. 1. The French, in their retreat from Moscow, left behind them 1195 pieces of cannon, which the emperor ordered to be employed in two colossal pillars at Moscow and Petersburg, to commemorate the defeat of the invaders.

4. Parliament opened by the prince regent. The speech referred to the treaties concluded with the allies, and exultingly dwelt upon recent events; but it was yet moderate in its tone; declaring "that no disposition to require from France sacrifices of any description inconsistent with her honour or just pretensions as a nation would ever be on his part, or on that of his majesty's allies, an obstacle to peace." Addresses passed without opposition.

9. Buonaparte arrived at Paris.

12. The French garrison at Dresden, to the number of 40,000, surrendered to the Austrians. Stettin, with a garrison of 7000, followed the example. Before the end of the year nearly the whole of Germany was liberated.

15. At Amsterdam the people rose in a body, deposed the French authorities, and proclaimed the sovereignty of the house of Orange. On the 23rd a body of Cossacks entered the city.

20. The Helvetic confederacy, of which Buonaparte was mediator, proclaimed a neutrality. But the Austrians informed the Swiss this could not be respected; it was necessary to prove themselves independent of foreign influence before they could be deemed neutral.

28. The prince of Orange embarked for Holland: 10,000 Dutch prisoners were liberated, and sent over to aid the efforts of their countrymen.

Dec. 1. The allied sovereigns issued from Frankfort a declaration explanatory of their views, evincing in their successes a very laudable moderation. "Victory," they said, "had conducted them to the banks of the Rhine, and the first use which

they made of it was to offer peace. They desired that France might be great and powerful; because, in a state of greatness and strength, she constituted one of the foundations of the social edifice of Europe. They offered to confirm to the French empire an extent of territory which France, under her kings, never knew. Desiring peace themselves, they wished such an equilibrium of power to be established, that Europe might be preserved from the calamities which for the last twenty years had overwhelmed her."

2. General Blucher crossed the Rhine.

11. By way of embroiling matters in Spain, Buonaparte liberated Ferdinand VII., recognising his title to the Spanish throne.

20. Parliament adjourned to March 1st. Before the adjournment a bill was passed, allowing three-fourths of the militia to volunteer into the line, on payment of a bounty; and a supplementary loan of 22 millions was granted. In the present conjunction of affairs, it was thought, both in and out of parliament, that no sacrifice could be too great to bring the contest on the continent to a speedy and desirable issue.

27. Viscount Castlereagh left England, to join the allied sovereigns, with full instructions to watch over British interests.

28. The legislative body counselled Buonaparte to issue a counter-manifesto to the Frankfort declaration, distinctly stating the sacrifices he was disposed to make for the repose of Europe. To this he returned a haughty answer, accusing them of seeking to draw a line between the interests of the sovereign and the people. He reproached them with aiming at changes in the constitution while the enemy was crossing the frontier. "You visionaries," he exclaimed, "are for guarantees against power. I am the only representative of the people; I am the state. If France desires another species of constitution, let her seek another monarch." To the counsel of state he complained in angry terms of the legislative body. "They stun me," said he, "with their clamorous demands for peace. Instead of assisting me with all their efforts, they seek to obstruct mine." On the 31st he suddenly dissolved that assembly.

30. The American general Hull defeated by general Rial on the Niagara frontier. Buffalo and the village of Black-rock were afterwards committed to the flames. Sir G. Prevost, in a proclamation, represented these severities as retaliations for the destruction practised by the Americans in their invasion of Upper Canada.

31. A remarkably dense fog, which extended for fifty miles round London, and

continued for eight days: it was followed by a heavy fall of snow, and a frost that lasted six weeks.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Henry Redhead Yorke, a political writer of some celebrity. Weiland, 80, author of "Oberon," and a celebrated German writer. William Huntington, S.S., 69, a popular preacher among the evangelical dissenters, who built a chapel for him in Gray's-inn-lane. Granville Sharpe, 79, eminent for his philanthropy and love of liberty. Henry James Pye, 69, the poet laureate: the laureateship was offered to Walter Scott, who declined it in favour of his friend Robert Southey. At Paris, the Abbé Delille, French poet. Alexander Wilson, the American ornithologist. Edward Long, 76, author of a history of Jamaica. Augusta duchess of Brunswick, 76, mother of the princess of Wales.

A.D. 1814. RESTORATION OF THE BOURBONS.—This year exhibited, in an extraordinary degree, the vicissitudes of warfare. Only eighteen months had elapsed since the French armies were conquerors at Moscow, and their being defeated under the walls of Paris, and compelled to purchase, by capitulation, a humiliating retreat behind the Loire. Most of the ancient princes, who had been driven from their thrones or their territories during the last quarter of a century, recovered possession of them by an unexpected change of fortune. Among the restored sovereigns were Louis XVIII. of France, Ferdinand VII. of Spain, the king of Sardinia, the prince of Orange, the elector of Hanover, and the Roman pontiff, Pius VII. Napoleon Buonaparte, who had heretofore astonished the world by his extraordinary successes, now became an object of not less interest by his rapid and overwhelming miscarriages. Urged by a vain ambition, he had sought to scale the pinnacle of universal empire, and like Phaeton, was suddenly struck headlong from his dazzling course. From being the dictator of continental Europe he became a pensioner of the Bourbon government, an exile on the rock of Elba, where, with the unmeaning title of emperor, a palace, guards, court-etiquette, and other regal pageantry, he was permitted to exercise a miniature sovereignty, in apparent mockery of his former grandeur. England was intoxicated with joy at the fall of her inveterate foe, which was heightened by a visit from the allied monarchs, and the return of the heroes of the Peninsular war. Amidst the general exultation, there was only one drawback—one dark spot—the aged monarch of the realm still kept his lonely watch-tower, unconscious of the unlooked-for triumph of the cause for which



he had pertinaciously struggled up to the last gleam of expiring intellect.

*Jan. 2.* The allied armies crossed the Rhine at different points, between Coblenz and Basle. The French marshals Marmont, Mortier, Ney, and Victor, retired before the invaders, whose vast force, amounting to 300,000 men, enabled them to march with confidence into the interior, blockading the fortresses in their rear. By the middle of the month Blücher had taken possession of Nancy, and the Austrians were at Langres.

After a brave and protracted defence, general Rapp surrendered Dantzic to the allies, with its garrison of 11,800 men and 13 generals.

*5.* Joachim Murat, king of Naples, the brother-in-law of Buonaparte, signed a treaty with England, by which he engaged to co-operate with the allies against France.

*12.* Sir T. Graham and the Russians, under Bulow, defeated the French near Breda, compelling them to retreat towards Antwerp.

*14.* Denmark joined the allies, and agreed to cede Norway to Sweden, in exchange for Swedish Pomerania and the isle of Rugen.

*17.* The river Thames frozen over and booths erected upon it. The snow laid so deep as to impede the mails and other conveyances, causing a great stagnation of business. The thermometer, exposed to a north-eastern aspect, stood 19 degrees below the freezing point.

*24.* The thaw commenced.

*25.* The French emperor left Paris to join his armies. He advanced to St. Dizier, on the Marne, and immediately directed attacks upon the corps of the allies collected around him.

*Feb. 1.* Battle of Brienne, between Napoleon and general Blücher: the force on each side was about 80,000, and both claimed the advantage: the result, however, was the retreat of the French. Troyes was entered by the allies, on the 7th, and Chalons-sur-Marne, evacuated by marshal Macdonald. The progress of the allies threatened speedy ruin to the French emperor, who, finding himself unable to meet their superior numbers in every quarter, determined to concentrate his force at particular points, and, striking home blows in succession, cut off their communications, and destroy them in detail. With this view, he first precipitated himself upon Blücher, whom he forced to retire to Chalons, interrupting his communication with the Austrians. In the interim, however, Soissons was taken by assault by Winzingerode, and the Austrians, under Schwartzberg, were advancing upon Paris in the direction of the Seine; Sens

was taken on the 11th, and Fontainebleau, on the 16th. To this quarter Buonaparte now turned his attention, and, forcing the Austrian position on the Seine, he re-entered Troyes on the 23rd in triumph.

*4.* Negotiations for peace opened at Chatillon between the French and the allied powers.

*7.* Mary Anne Clarke sentenced to nine months' imprisonment, for a libel on the Irish chancellor of the exchequer.

*10.* The crown-prince of Sweden, with his army, reached Cologne.

*12.* The custom-house of London burned down, with most of the adjoining warehouses. Three lives were lost, with many books, bonds, and documents, of importance.

*22.* A fraud practised at the stock-exchange by Ransom de Berenger and others, in which lord Cochrane was implicated—a pretended express from Dover, announcing the death of Buonaparte and the accession of Louis XVIII. The stocks rose ten per cent, by which the contrivers of the cheat sought to profit by selling out.

*25.* Lord Wellington defeated Soult at Orthes, and, on the following day, crossed the Adour.

*Mar. 1.* Treaty of alliance and subsidy concluded between Britain, Austria, Russia, and Prussia, at Chaumont.

*4.* The allies re-entered Troyes.

*7.* Battle of Craone, between the French and Blücher. It began at day-break: marshals Ney and Victor fought at the head of the infantry; the latter was wounded, together with generals Grouchy and Nansouty. The French were left masters of the field, which was covered with dead.

*9.* Battle of Laon, in which Napoleon was defeated, with the loss of 5000 prisoners, by the united corps of Winzingerode, Bulow, and Blücher. Buonaparte was not present in any other engagement during the war.

*10.* A man at Monmouth confessed himself guilty of a murder, for which he had been tried and found innocent 27 years before.

Sir Thomas Graham attempted to take Bergen-op-Zoom, but was repulsed with a great slaughter of the British.

*12.* Marshal Beresford entered the city of Bordeaux. It was the result of a counter-revolutionary movement of the citizens, headed by the mayor Lynch, who hoisted the white cockade, declaring for the Bourbons. The duke D'Angoulême, nephew to Louis XVI., entered the city with the British troops, and was received with acclamations.

*18.* NEGOTIATIONS AT CHATILLON.—These negotiations had been in progress

from the time the allies had entered France. Buonaparte, through his minister, Caulincourt, at first proposed an armistice; but this was rejected, as an expedient to gain time; and the immediate signature of preliminaries of peace was demanded. The course of the Rhine, leaving Belgium to Austria: the chain of the Alps, leaving Savoy to France; and the Pyrenees, were designated as the permanent boundaries of the French empire: Italy was to be the subject of future arrangement with Austria. On the 25th of February, two days after Napoleon's triumphant entry into Troyes, he received the overtures of the allies: either elated by his temporary success, or loth, as others state, to leave France less than he found her, he rejected peace on these terms; engaging, however, to send a *contre-projet* on the 10th of March. It was not received till the 15th, when it was found to demand frontiers for France which the allies alleged to be incompatible with their security and the equilibrium of power they purposed to establish. It also demanded Italy for prince Eugene; and that other members of the Buonaparte family should be "placed on foreign thrones." (*Belsh. Hist. Geo. III. & IV.*, 107.) This scheme of the French emperor was peremptorily rejected; and the negotiations at Chatillon declared on the 18th to be at an end.

#### 21. British parliament met.

The French defeated at Arcis-sur-Aube. The next point to which the French and allied armies were now directed was Vitry, where Napoleon was to be joined by the corps of Ney and Macdonald. But the French emperor suddenly changed his plan, taking the road to St. Dizier. He pushed between the Prussian and Austrian armies, and thought by menacing the rear of the latter to alarm them for their communication with the Rhine. The design was penetrated by an intercepted letter, and failed. While Napoleon was pursuing his "wild-goose chase" in the rear, the allied generals determined to unite their forces, amounting to 200,000 men, and, dividing them into three columns, march direct to Paris.

27. The head-quarters of the grand army of the allies fixed at Coulomier.

28. Blucher crossed the Marne at Meaux.

31. ALLIES ENTER PARIS.—On the 29th the corps of Marmont and Mortier retreated to the capital, and the empress-regent, with the king of Rome, having retired to Blois, Joseph Buonaparte issued a proclamation urging the Parisians to a brave defence. Early the next morning the French army, with 10,000 volunteers from the national guard, and the pupils of the Polytechnic school (amounting altogether

to about 30,000 bayonets), took up a position upon the heights of Montmartre, and awaited the attack of their opponents. It was not long delayed, and a furious conflict ensued: the arrival of Blucher, however, with the Prussians, decided the fate of the day. Further resistance being hopeless against the overwhelming numbers of the enemy, Marmont and Mortier, with the concurrence of Joseph Buonaparte, offered to capitulate. About midnight the terms of the capitulation were agreed to, by which it was settled the French troops of the line should evacuate the capital on the 31st, carrying with them all their military appurtenances. On the same day the emperor of Russia and king of Prussia entered Paris, amidst loud acclamations. At the suggestion of Talleyrand and the abbé de Pradt a declaration was immediately issued by the emperor Alexander, in the name of the allies, explicitly affirming that they would no more treat with Napoleon Buonaparte or any of his family; that they respected the integrity of France as it existed under its legitimate kings; and that they would recognise and guarantee the constitution which France should adopt. The French emperor, who had advanced near the bridge of Charenton, and near enough the enemy to discern the light of their bivouacs spread over the plain of Villeneuve St. George, finding all was lost, retired to Fontainebleau.

Apr. 1. The French senate assembled, under the presidency of prince Talleyrand, and passed a decree for a provisional government, consisting of five persons, the president himself being at the head. By a second decree it affirmed that in a constitutional monarchy the monarch exists only in virtue of the constitution. It next proceeded to prove how Buonaparte had violated the constitution: that he had "forfeited the throne, and that the hereditary right established in his family was forfeited."

4. Buonaparte signed his abdication of the French throne in favour of his son; this not being deemed sufficient, in a few days he signed a second abdication, renouncing the throne intirely for himself and "heirs." The unsuccessful movement of Napoleon in the rear of the allied armies, and his wilful demeanour, deprived him of the cordial support of the French marshals, who were anxious to detach themselves from his fortunes. Marmont appears to have been the first to desert him, his corps being led to Versailles by general Sarrazin, Buonaparte's person was in the power of the allies.

5. Prince of Orange installed sovereign of the Netherlands, at Amsterdam.

10. BATTLE OF TOULOUSE, lord Wellington defeated marshal Soult. The ac-



tion was a severe one, and several thousand lives lost on both sides, owing to the non-arrival of news of the events in Paris, which Wellington did not receive till the 12th. Soult evacuated Toulouse on the night of the 10th, and next day the white flag was hoisted.

11. Treaty signed between the allies and Buonaparte, by which the island of Elba is ceded to him in full sovereignty, with the imperial title for life; a pension was also granted to him of 2,000,000 of francs, and 2,500,000 more to his relatives, payable out of the revenues of France. Had Napoleon demanded Corsica, instead of Elba, named, by his own acknowledgment, "in the humour of the moment," (*Las Cases's Journal*, iii. pt. iii. 348), it would have been conceded to him without hesitation.

14. In a desperate sally of the French from Bayonne, general sir John Hope was wounded and taken prisoner, and general Andrew Hay killed. This was the last action of the Peninsular war.

17. Genoa surrendered to the British, commanded by lord W. Bentinck, under flattering promises of liberty and independence.

20. Louis XVIII. entered London in great state from his rural retreat at Hartwell, attended by the life-guards, many of the king's carriages, and accompanied by the prince-regent, upon whom he conferred the order of St. Esprit, on his arrival at Grillon's hotel. Here he kept his court, and was congratulated by the lord mayor and citizens of London, and by most of the nobility.

21. Buonaparte left Fontainebleau for Elba. Upon his way he met marshal Augereau, whom he accused of infidelity in the command of the army intrusted to him: The marshal, in return, reproached Napoleon with betraying the army and France; and that he had not "courage to die the death of a soldier." (*Belsh. Hist.* xiv. 116.)

24. Louis XVIII. embarked for Calais, convoyed by the duke of Clarence; the prince-regent, and many of the nobility taking leave of him at Dover.

28. Buonaparte embarked at Frejus for Elba.

May 1. The marquis of Wellington created a duke, for his great services in the Peninsula. An annuity of 13,000*l.* settled upon him by parliament, and a grant of 300,000*l.* to purchase a suitable estate and mansion.

2. The states-general of the united provinces, assembled at the Hague, took the oaths to their new constitution, formed on the representative model of England.

3. Louis XVIII. entered Paris: he was favourably received by the inhabitants, but the soldiery were silent.

4. Ferdinand VII. dissolved the Spanish cortes, and caused several of its most distinguished members to be arrested. He entered Madrid on the 14th, and was received with every demonstration of attachment by the inhabitants, despite of his constitutional antipathies. Measures were forthwith adopted for re-establishing the Inquisition, and restoring every other institution, civil and ecclesiastical, to its former state.

5. Pius VII., in a proclamation from Cezena, assumed the ancient title of "God's vicar on earth," and spoke of his temporal sovereignty as essentially connected with his spiritual supremacy.

17. The Peninsular generals Beresford, Hill, Cotton, Graham, and Hope, elevated to the peerage; the two former by their family names; the three latter as lords Combermere, Lynedock, and Niddry.

26. Hamburg recovered its municipal government and independence, under the patronage of the allied sovereigns.

30. TREATY OF PARIS.—The terms of this celebrated compact were liberal towards France, assuring to her the boundaries existing January 1st, 1792, with some additions of territory on the side of Belgium, Germany, and Savoy. The navigation of the Rhine was declared free, and the German states to be independent, united by a federal league. Switzerland to continue independent, under its own government. Italy, out of the Austrian limits, to be composed of sovereign states. England restored all her conquests to France, with the exception of Tobago, St. Lucie, and Mauritius. Malta was confirmed to her; and France engaged to erect no fortifications in India, and to co-operate with Britain in procuring the abolition of the slave-trade. Farther dispositions were referred to a congress, to be assembled at Vienna, and to which each power engaged to send a plenipotentiary.

June 3. The empress Josephine buried at Ruel: she was born in 1763, and married to Napoleon Buonaparte in 1797. The emperor Alexander had visited her several times at Malmaison; and Buonaparte, at St. Helena, always spoke of Josephine as uniting sweetness of disposition with singular grace and accomplishments.

Irish catholic board suppressed by proclamation.

4. A constitutional charter delivered by Louis XVIII. to the legislative body, differing in some points from that framed by the senate.

8. VISIT OF THE ALLIED SOVEREIGNS.—The emperor of Russia, with his sister, the duchess of Oldenburgh, and the king of Prussia, and his two sons, attended by various persons of distinction, arrived in London; prince Metternich, generals

Blucher, Barclay de Tolly, Platoff, the hetman of the Cossacks, &c. The metropolis was illuminated, and became a scene of great gaiety during the three weeks' stay of the royal visitors. Splendid and costly entertainments were given to the illustrious strangers by the corporation of London, and by the merchants and bankers, at Merchant Tailors' hall. Westminster-abbey, the bank, the dock-yards and arsenal at Woolwich, were visited, amidst a vast concourse of people. The emperor Alexander acquired great popularity by his affability, as well as by the magnanimity of his recent conduct. The Prussian monarch appeared rather dejected: it was ascribed to the recent loss of the queen, who never recovered the mortifying disasters of the war of 1806, when, according to her own emphatic expression, "*La mémoire du grand Frederic nous a fait égarer.*"

20. Grand review in Hyde-park.

21. Lord Cochrane, De Berenger, and others, who were tried on the 8th, for a conspiracy, by false reports, to raise the price of the public funds, received their sentences. His lordship was sentenced to pay a fine of 500*l.*, to stand in the pillory, and be imprisoned for twelve months. The severity of this sentence, and the deportment of the chief-justice Ellenborough during the trial, turned the tide of public feeling entirely in the accused nobleman's favour; particularly when persecution was traced to the active part lord Cochrane had recently taken in the political world, in opposition to the ministers. The infamous part of the punishment, the pillory, was remitted; but his lordship's name was erased from the roll of the Knights of the Bath, and he was expelled from his seat in the house of commons. The electors of Westminster, however, unanimously re-elected him, expressing, at the same time, a strong opinion in favour of his innocence.

25. Grand naval review at Portsmouth.

27. The allied sovereigns embarked at Dover for the continent.

July 4. PRINCESS OF WALES.—The income of the princess of Wales was raised to 50,000*l.*, but at her own request, in a letter to the speaker of the house of commons, it was limited to 35,000*l.* During the stay of the royal visitors the disputes of the princess and the regent had become very prominent, especially after the public declaration of the prince, that he "would not meet her royal highness upon any occasion, either public or private." The princess Charlotte, her daughter, it was expected, would have been affianced to the prince of Orange; but to this union she had a decided aversion, and actually ran away from Warwick-house, in a hackney-

coach, to avoid it. The prince-regent was incensed at her refractoriness, and never forgave the duke of Sussex the share he had in breaking off the match; and the regent went on a sudden to the residence of the princess, and dismissed all her servants. Her mother, the princess Caroline, then obtained, contrary to the advice of Mr. Whitbread, Mr. Brougham, and others, permission to make a tour on the continent.

9. A thanksgiving for peace. The prince-regent and two houses of parliament went in state to St. Paul's.

21. The regent gave a superb fête at Carlton-house, in honour of the duke of Wellington. 2500 persons present.

22. Admiral William Bradley found guilty of forging letters to defraud the revenue. He was sentenced to death, which was commuted for banishment.

30. PARLIAMENT PROROGUED.—The business of the session had not been important. Sir Samuel Romilly succeeded in carrying bills for taking away corruption of blood in felony, and of disembowelling in the punishment of traitors. Lord Morpeth's motion of censure on the speaker for an improper advertance to the rejection of the Roman catholic bill of last session was negatived. The subject of the corn-laws was discussed, but any definite legislation upon them was deferred. Mr. Peel, the Irish secretary, introduced a bill, which passed into a law, for the better preservation of the peace in Ireland. It was occasioned by the existence of outrages in some parts of the country, of which the most savage were perpetrated by the *carders*; so called from their application of wool-cards to the skin and flesh of the objects of their vengeance. In the debates on this measure observations were made on the orange societies, and of the attempts made to establish similar associations in England.

Aug. 1. A grand jubilee in the parks, to commemorate the return of peace. A Chinese bridge was thrown over the canal in St. James's-park, upon which a superb pagoda was raised, for the display of fireworks. In the green-park a magnificent temple of concord was erected, with a gallery for the foreign ministers, and other persons of distinction. On the Serpentine was a miniature representation of a sea-fight, between the English and Americans, in which the latter were beaten! Mr. Sadler ascended in his balloon. The fair in Hyde-park was continued several days, and only one accident occurred to damp the festivities,—the burning of the pagoda bridge.

7. A bull of the pope re-established the order of the Jesuits. By another edict, of the 15th, his holiness, after lamenting



the destruction of the monastic communities, provided for the restoration of the monks to their convents. The renovation of the festivals observed at Rome, prior to its incorporation with the French empire, was another indication of the prevalent spirit.

24. **BURNING OF WASHINGTON.**—The war against the United States was continued with varied results. In an attempt to take fort Erie the British were repulsed, with the loss of 900 men killed and wounded. An enterprise, planned by sir A. Cochrane and general Ross, against the city of Washington, was more successful. Arriving within five miles of the capital, the British found the Americans, to the number of 8000, strongly posted; but they fled on the first onset. Washington was entered the same evening; and immediately after the object of the expedition was entered upon, by the destruction of the president's house, dock-yard, arsenal, war-office, and other public buildings. A frigate, ready to be launched, and a sloop of war, were also destroyed. On the 30th the troops re-embarked.

Sept. 11. A British naval force attacked the American flotilla, before Platsburg, on lake Champlain; but after a severe conflict were all captured, except some gun-boats. In consequence of this disaster, sir G. Prevost abandoned his design of penetrating into the state of New York, leaving his sick and wounded to the mercy of the enemy.

13. General Ross killed before Baltimore, and, the Americans having made vigorous preparations, the intention to treat that city the same as Washington was frustrated.

Oct. 11. The electorate of Hanover erected into a kingdom, under the rule of the British sovereign. The electoral function had ceased by the dissolution of the Germanic empire, and the imperial throne of Austria becoming hereditary. The reason assigned by the prince-regent for the change was the wish to facilitate the general arrangements of the allied sovereigns, by assimilating the electorate to Bavaria and Wirtemberg, which had been erected into kingdoms.

13. A gentleman's gardener at Leighton Buzzard, having had his green-house robbed, sat up therein to watch, but in the morning was found dead, destroyed by the mephitic gas.

15. One of the large vats in the brew-house of Meux and Co., St. Giles's, burst, and demolished two houses; 3500 barrels of beer were lost, and four persons killed.

Colonel Quintin, of the 10th hussars, acquitted by a court-martial of the charges of cowardice and incapacity. The prince-

regent confirming this sentence, several officers of the hussars were transferred to other regiments.

19. The East India brigade disbanded.

20. A large majority of the Norwegian diet assented to the annexation of Norway to Sweden. This amicable issue was produced by the politic conduct of the crown-prince of Sweden, who accepted the constitution framed by the diet.

25. Mr. George Canning appointed ambassador extraordinary to the prince-regent of Portugal. At this time there was no court at Lisbon, and the appointment is represented to have been created for the convenience of the honourable gentleman, whose son was unwell, and required a warmer climate.

29. A man crushed to death on the top of a coach, by imprudently sitting there when passing under a gateway.

Nov. 1. The congress of Vienna met to complete the settlement of Europe: lord Castlereagh attended on the part of England.

8. The autumnal session of parliament was opened by the prince-regent; but nothing important occurred prior to the recess. The usual addresses in each house were carried without a division.

Dec. 3. John Hankey, F.A.S., who had been missing since August, was found in his chambers, in Gray's-inn, almost devoured by flies. He was in affluent circumstances, but extremely penurious, and never admitted any person into his chambers.

4. At a methodist chapel in Manchester, on a false alarm of the gallery giving way, two women were killed, and many severely injured.

10. Lord French, in a fit of insanity, shot himself at Dublin.

The earl of Roseberry recovered 15,000*l.* damages from Sir H. Mildmay, for *crim. con.* with the countess.

12. At Myfod, in Montgomeryshire, twelve cattle having eaten of some branches of the yew-tree, six of them were found dead near the spot.

20. A riot at the theatre, Dublin, which continued some nights. Mr. Richard Jones, one of the managers, obliged to withdraw from the concern.

24. Peace concluded between Britain and the United States of America, at Ghent. The disputes respecting territorial boundaries were to be determined by commissioners, mutually appointed. No mention was made by either side of the claim of maritime rights that had originated the war.

26. Genoa annexed to the Italian dominions of the king of Sardinia. Hopes had been held out by the British government that Genoa would form a separate and

independent state ; but this, it was alleged, would weaken the system the Vienna congress had determined to establish in Italy. On the same plea Venice was annexed to the Austrian empire.

27. DEATH OF JOHANNA SOUTHCOOT.—During the whole summer, and up to the present, public curiosity had been intensely excited by the delusions of this singular enthusiast. The believers in her divine mission were found in most parts of the kingdom ; and, in the metropolis and its vicinity alone, are supposed, at one time, to have amounted to 100,000. She was born about 1750, of humble parents, and, being carried away by the fervour of a heated imagination, gave herself out as the woman spoken of in Revelations.—(*Gorton's Biog. Dict.* ii. 921.) In this, her assumed capacity, although totally illiterate, she scribbled much mystic and unintelligible verse and prose, in the way of vision and prophecy, and carried on a lucrative trade in seals, which were to procure the purchasers salvation. Being attacked by a disorder which gave her the appearance of pregnancy, that, too, was turned to account, and she unhesitatingly announced herself *enceinte* of the promised Shiloh. Several clergymen of the established church, a physician, and engraver of eminence, with many others, whose education ought to have preserved them from such weakness, became the dupes of her misconceptions. A cradle, of the most expensive materials, swaddling clothes, &c., were got ready for the reception of the miraculous babe ; and, in the manufacturing towns of the north, large crowds assembled to wait the arrival of the coaches, in expectation of tidings of the great event. About the end of the year the unhappy visionary began to have misgivings concerning the real nature of the signs by which she had been misled, and expressed her conviction that she had been “the sport of some spirit.” Death, on the 27th, terminated her perplexities, and a subsequent anatomical inquiry discovered the seat of her disorder. Many of her followers, however, remained unconvinced, and some are still to be found unshaken in their credulity.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Dr. Charles Burney, 88, author of a “History of Music.” Sir Benjamin Thompson, a native of America, and better known by his German title of count Rumford, 62 ; celebrated for his application of natural philosophy to the practical uses of life. The queen of the Two Sicilies, a woman who had acted a diabolical part in Italian politics. Prince de Ligne, 79, a public character of eminence, and author of the “*Vie du Prince Eugène de Savoie, écrite par Lui-même ;*”

and which the *Edinburgh Review* mistakenly thought to be a genuine autobiography of the eminent Savoyard.

A.D. 1815. RETURN OF NAPOLEON FROM ELBA.—The unexpected return of Buonaparte to France seemed to endanger the entire settlement of the preceding year. The juncture chosen for this extraordinary enterprise was both favourable and the reverse. It was favourable as respects the state of the popular sentiment in France, and the temper of the French soldiery ; but it was the contrary as respects the condition of the foreign powers. Their vast armies were undisbanded ; and the allied sovereigns themselves, or their ministers, were assembled in congress at Vienna. No time was requisite for negotiation, and the resolution was promptly taken for expelling the intruder by one vigorous and united effort. The struggle was short, but decisive ; and the victory of Waterloo again placed the destinies of France at the mercy of the allies. Pending the hundred days of Napoleon's restoration, the constitutional party of France, consisting chiefly of the middle ranks, did not take a decided part on either side. A short trial had convinced them that the Bourbons were unsuited to the government of the French nation ; neither had they a wish for the return of the military despotism of the emperor, which, despite of his constitutional professions, they felt to be inseparable from his character ; and they were loth to risk the return of anarchy by again attempting to realise the abstractions of republican rule. In this state of uncertainty they accepted what the fortune of war, a second time, awarded to them—Louis XVIII. The exile of Napoleon to St. Helena, the disbanding of the remains of his army, and the exemplary punishment of his chief adherents, with the military occupation of France for five years by the allies, afforded substantial guarantees against reaction. The pride, rather than the welfare of France was hurt by her reverses ; her industry, intelligence, rich soil, and fine climate remained, and, aided by these, she speedily rallied under her misfortunes. If the war had left her weak, her neighbours were not less so. All exhibited symptoms of exhaustion, and none more than that power to which the rest had been accustomed to look for unstinted resources. Britain fought and paid for the general interests of Europe, and the chief return has been envy of her riches and commercial greatness.

Jan. 2. The prince-regent increased the knights of the order of the bath, dividing them into three classes ; 72 grand crosses, 180 knights commanders, and an unlimited number of companions.



8. Intelligence of the peace concluded in Europe not having been received, the war between the English and Americans continued, and the vicinity of New Orleans was the scene of a sharp conflict. The Americans, under general Jackson, had taken up a strong position within six miles of the city, having a canal in front, their right resting on the Mississippi, and their left on a thick wood. The British advanced to the attack in face of a destructive fire from every point of the enemy's line, in the midst of which general Pakenham was killed, and generals Gibbs and Keene wounded. Disorderd by these disasters, the troops retreated, with the loss of 2000 killed, wounded, and prisoners.

15. The American ship *President*, commodore Decatur, captured. It closed a naval war with America, which had been conducted on both sides with great spirit and enterprise.

18. The remains of Louis XVI. and queen Antoinette exhumed, and deposited with much ceremony in the cathedral of St. Denis.

31. A duel at Bishop's-court between counsellor O'Connell and Mr. D'Esterre, in which the latter was killed. It arose from Mr. O'Connell having called the corporation of Dublin a "beggary corporation;" which Mr. D'Esterre thought fit, as a member thereof, to resent.

*Feb.* 9. Parliamentary session began.

17. Mr. Frederick Robiusion brought forward his resolutions on the corn-trade; the scope of which was to prohibit the importation of wheat, when the price was under 80s. a-quarter. They became the foundation of a law, which excited much popular discontent, and was wholly inefficacious; for an unusually abundant harvest at home reduced the price below the standard, leaving the farmer to struggle with the difficulties resulting from cheap bread and high rents.

19. Candy, the capital of Ceylon, taken by the British troops, under general Brownrigg.

23. The union of Belgium with Holland effected, under the guarantee of the allied sovereigns; and in consequence the prince of Orange assumed the regal title.

28. Tumults in the metropolis, on account of the corn bill: they continued upwards of a week, and at one time bore a serious aspect, but were quelled by the intervention of the military.

*Mar.* 1. Buonaparte landed at Cannes, in Provence, with about 1000 followers, French, Corsicans, Poles, Neapolitans, and Elbese. At first no disposition appeared to join the invader, and a party of his guards, whom he sent to take possession

of Antibes, were made prisoners by the governor. Advancing rapidly towards Grenoble, he was joined by colonel Labedoyere, who commanded the 7th regiment of the line, and had been sent to oppose him. The impulse thus given, in a manner, decided the contest. At Lyons, which he reached on the 10th, he was received with enthusiasm. He wrote to marshal Ney, who was posted at Lons le Souldier, with 12 000 men, to come and join him. The marshal had volunteered his service to Louis XVIII., and promised to bring Napoleon, "like a wild beast in a cage, to Paris." Carried away by the impulse of the moment, he went over to his old companion in arms, and forthwith issued a proclamation to his troops, informing them that the cause of the Bourbons was for ever lost. This step was decisive. Buonaparte's remaining progress was an uninterrupted triumph. A show of resistance was made at Melun, and a body of troops and national guards were assembled, under the command of Macdonald. In the afternoon an open carriage was seen advancing at full gallop through the forest of Fontainebleau, attended only by a few hussars—it was Napoleon, who, leaping out, was soon in the midst of the ranks drawn up to oppose him. Cries of "Vive l'empereur!" rent the air. At nine in the evening of the 20th, he reached the Tuileries.

13. The allied sovereigns declared that Buonaparte had placed himself out of the pale of civil and social relations, and, as a disturber of the general tranquillity, had rendered himself liable to the public vengeance.

19. Louis XVIII. withdrew from Paris, and established his court at Ghent.

20. Lord Cochrane, who had escaped from the king's bench, was arrested in the house of commons, and carried back to prison.

25. By a treaty concluded at Vienna, Great Britain, Russia, Austria, and Prussia, bound themselves to maintain the treaty of Paris, May 30, 1814; and for that purpose each to keep in the field 150,000 men, and not to lay down their arms till Buonaparte should be deprived of the power of exciting disturbances.

*Apr.* 4. Buonaparte addressed a circular to the European sovereigns, announcing his accession to the French throne, and the departure of the Bourbons. He received no answer; by some his letter was returned unopened.

5. An East Indiaman burnt, in consequence of a candle setting fire to a cask of rum: in less than an hour she sunk. 20 lives were lost.

6. Disturbances at the dépôt, Dartmoor.

The American prisoners attempted to escape; and, armed with knives, attacked the guard, who were compelled to fire, and killed seven and wounded thirty-five. A coroner's inquest brought in a verdict of justifiable homicide.

23. Buonaparte published what he entitled "an additional act to the constitution of the empire." It was to be submitted to the free acceptance of France, and contained every safeguard to liberty that could be desired in a mixed monarchy. Had such an instrument been a voluntary emanation from him, in the height of his power, and not extorted by his present exigencies, he might have been confided in, and ranked among illustrious legislators.

*May.* DEFEAT OF MURAT.—The king of Naples was of the number of those who deserted the French emperor after the battle of Leipsic, in 1814, and formed an alliance with Austria. Murat was a brave soldier, but fickle, restless, and void of political wisdom. Pending the territorial arrangements of the Vienna congress, he felt some uneasiness respecting his own kingdom; and it subsequently appeared that Talleyrand had proposed to the English ministry, who were bound to him by treaty, a joint attack upon Naples. Of Buonaparte's landing in France he was apprised, and approved of the undertaking; but he threw off the mask prematurely. Hearing of Napoleon's triumphant entry into Lyons, he at once commenced hostilities against Austria, issuing a proclamation asserting the independence of Italy. At first he was successful, but was speedily overpowered by the superior force of his antagonist. Driven from Italy in May, and separated from Madame Murat, he offered his services to Napoleon, which were declined, and he then withdrew into Corsica. Collecting in this island a few men as desperate as himself, he made a rash descent on the coast of Calabria. Proceeding to a village, he attempted to raise the people in his favour, by addressing them as their king. The effect, however, was to bring upon him the whole population of the district: he and his followers, after a sharp action, were surrounded and made prisoners. Murat was tried by a military commission, and shot October 15th.

23. Lord Keith laid the first stone of Southwark-bridge; John Rennie was the architect.

Arguelles, a distinguished member of the Spanish cortes, compelled by Ferdinand to serve as a private soldier.

*June 1.* The grand ceremonial of the *Champ-de Mars*, which took place with all the pageantry of a Parisian spectacle.

Its business was to declare the national acceptance of the additional act to the constitution. Napoleon made a speech, beginning—"Emperor, consul, soldier, I hold all from the people;" and then took the oath to the constitution. He distributed the eagles among the troops, who swore to defend them at the hazard of their lives, amidst cries of *Vive l'empereur*.

2. By an explosion of foul air, in a coal-mine, near Newbattle, in the county of Durham, 70 persons perished.

3. The legislative body met. Its address, and the answer of Napoleon, show that entire confidence did not subsist between the two parties. "The seductions of prosperity," said the emperor, "are not the danger which menaces us at present. It is under the *Caudine forks* that foreigners wish to make us pass."

8. A new confederation amongst the German states was concluded at Vienna, by which a general diet, composed of representatives from each state, was formed to manage the affairs of the confederation, and a variety of regulations adopted for the preservation of internal tranquillity, and for the resistance of foreign aggression. The presidency of the diet was vested in Austria, and the number of votes limited to seventeen. Frankfort was the place fixed for the meeting of the diet.

12. Napoleon left Paris for the army in the morning, breakfasted at Soissons, slept at Laon, and next day arrived at Avesne.

14. The army, under the immediate direction of the French emperor, amounted to 120,400 men, with 350 pieces of cannon. In an order of the day, issued the same evening, he said, "the moment had arrived for every Frenchman who had a heart to conquer or perish." The allied troops in Flanders were yet tranquil in their cantonments. The Prusso-Saxon army formed the left, the Anglo-Belgian army the right. The former was 120,000 strong, commanded by marshal Blücher; the latter 104,000, commanded by the duke of Wellington. The head-quarters of Blücher were at Namur; of Wellington at Brussels, 16 leagues distant.

15. Napoleon, having driven before him the advanced guard of the Prussians, entered Charleroi. From Charleroi were two roads, one leading to Namur, the other, through Quatre-Bras, Gemappe, and Waterloo, to Brussels. In the evening, at 11 o'clock, the duke of Wellington, who was at a ball, received a second dispatch from Blücher, informing him that the French emperor was on his march to Brussels, at the head of 150,000 men. The dance was suspended, and orders issued for assembling the troops.



16. Battle of Ligny, in which Napoleon defeated Blücher, and forced him to retreat to Wavre. The conflict raged with great fury, from three in the afternoon till night, and Blücher narrowly escaped being made prisoner. The loss of the French was 7000 killed and wounded; that of the Prussians more considerable. On the same day there was a sharp action between the left of the French, under marshal Ney, and the Anglo-Belgian army. Lord Wellington had directed his whole army to advance on Quatre-Bras, with the intention of succouring Blücher, but was himself attacked by a large body of cavalry and infantry, before his own cavalry had joined. The prince of Orange was soon overthrown; but he was supported by the Brunswickers, and the English division under general Picton, which arrived in great haste, having marched eight leagues that morning. The contest was warmly renewed, and many left dead on the field, among them the duke of Brunswick. The 42nd Highland regiment was nearly cut to pieces by a charge of the French cuirassiers. By the arrival of the first division of English guards, and Alten's division marching in double-quick time, the enemy was repulsed.

18. BATTLE OF WATERLOO.—The duke of Wellington passed the night of the 16th at the farm of Quatre-Bras. The retreat of Blücher to Wavre compelled the duke to make a corresponding retrograde movement, in order to keep up a communication with the Prussians, and to retire on the 17th towards Waterloo. The chain of heights occupied by the Anglo-Belgian army, two miles in front of the village of Waterloo, crossed the high roads leading from Charleroi and Nivelles to Brussels, and which roads united at the hamlet of Mont St. Jean, in the rear of the British position. The right wing extended to a ravine; between the right and the centre lay the house and garden of Hougomont, which were occupied in force. The left of the centre was covered by the farm of La Haye, beyond which the British distantly communicated with the Prussians, at Wavre. The cavalry, in three lines, guarded the rear of the troops, which extended three miles. Confronting the position of the allies was a chain of heights, separated by a ravine, half a mile in breadth. Upon this opposite chain of heights Napoleon arrayed his forces, having La Belle Alliance in his rear. They were in six parallel lines; the two first of infantry, having light cavalry at the wings; the third and fourth of cuirassiers; the fifth and sixth of the cavalry of the guard, with the infantry of the guard a little in the rear of the six lines. The

emperor, having rode through the lines, and given his last orders, placed himself on the heights of Rossomme, whence he had a complete view of the two armies, amounting to about 90,000 men on each side. About ten o'clock the battle began by a fierce assault on Hougomont: it was taken and retaken several times, being bravely defended by the English guards, who parted with their blood dearly, and remained masters of the position. At the same time the French kept up a heavy cannonade against the whole line, and made repeated charges, with heavy masses of cuirassiers, supported by close columns of infantry. They were received by the allies, formed into squares; and the artillery being skilfully planted, told effectively. Despairing of mastering Hougomont, the enemy made a desperate attack on La Haye, which was resolutely defended by the Scotch regiments and Hanoverians, but was carried at the point of the bayonet. Animated by this success, they renewed their efforts on the British centre. Charges of infantry and cavalry followed thick on each other, with astonishing pertinacity. In bringing up his division, the brave sir Thomas Picton was shot through the head. A grand charge of British cavalry ensued, which for a moment swept everything before it; but assailed in its turn by masses of cuirassiers and Polish lancers, it was forced back, and in the *mêlée*, sir William Ponsonby and other gallant officers were slain. It was now four o'clock. Masters of La Haye, the French began to clear the ground in its rear towards St. Jean; and Wellington himself felt so hard pressed, that he was heard to say, "I wish to God night or Blücher would come." A cannonade was heard on the extreme left,—it was the corps of Bulow, which had been kept back three hours in the passage of a defile. Against this new foe Napoleon despatched count Lobau, while he prepared, by one last effort, to overwhelm the British, before effectual succour could reach them. At seven in the evening he brought forward the imperial guards, sustained by the best regiments of horse and foot, amid shouts of *Vive l'empereur*, and flourishes of martial music. Some disorder, however, occurring in the columns as they advanced, owing to the eagerness of the movement, the British commander seized the favourable juncture, and promptly directed a counter-charge. This was so unexpected, that panic seized the advancing French, and almost before the bayonets crossed, these veteran warriors fled in confusion, despite of every effort of the gallant Ney to rally his flying bands. At the same instant the Prussians, who had arrived in full force,

falling on the flank and rear of the enemy, completed the victory. Napoleon, observing the recoil of his columns on all sides, and the remediless confusion around him, said, "It is all over," and retreated across the fields. They were pursued by the victors till long after dark; when the British, who had been under arms during the whole of the preceding tempestuous night, overcame with fatigue, halted, and left the further pursuit to the Prussians. The task was well performed, and nothing could be more complete than the discomfiture of the routed army: all their camp equipage, artillery, and even the private carriage of Napoleon, were abandoned. Exclusive of the slaughter in and after the battle, 7000 prisoners were taken. The loss of the allies was great; that of the British and Hanoverians alone amounted to 13,000. The British officers suffered severely; two generals and four colonels fell in the field, and nine generals and five colonels were wounded; among them lord Uxbridge, who had fought bravely, and was wounded with almost the last shot of the enemy. Such in its main circumstances was the great battle of Waterloo; the most gallantly and scientifically contested, and the most important in its results of any on record.

21. Buonaparte returned to Paris. The legislative body had assembled, and declared its sittings permanent. Having sent for Benjamin Constant in the evening, Napoleon learnt that there was a disposition to depose him, which he anticipated next day, by announcing that his "political life was terminated, and that he resigned in favour of his son, Napoleon II." A provisional government was forthwith appointed, consisting of Carnot, Fouché, Grenier, Caulincourt, and Quinette; and a commission despatched to treat with the allied armies.

22. A general illumination in London.

29. The allied armies, under Wellington and Blücher, invested Paris. Napoleon left Malmaison for Rochefort, intending to embark for America. Just before he set out, Buonaparte was guilty of the weakness of sending a message to the provisional government, offering to take the command of the army as general.

July 3. Marshal Davoust, the commander of the French army, concluded a convention with lord Wellington and marshal Blücher. It stipulated "that Paris should be evacuated in three days by the French army, which should retire beyond the Loire; and all individuals now resident in the capital should enjoy their rights and liberties, without being disturbed or called to account, either for the situations they may have held, or as to their conduct or political opinions."

6. Louis XVIII. made his public entry into Paris, amidst cries of *Vive le roi!*

Died, on the 6th instant, in his 55th year, by his own hands, SAMUEL WHITBREAD, M.P., a gentleman of superior energy and abilities, and highly popular from the patriotic objects to which he had directed the exercise of his powers. Although not of the patrician order, he had many years been a leading member of the house of commons, and esteemed one of the most shrewd, investigative, and vigorous opponents of the Pitt ministry. He conducted the impeachment against lord Melville, and was a whig, but often acted according to his own views, independently of party. His melancholy death was ascribed to aberration of intellect, produced by over-anxious attention to business.

11. Parliament prorogued by a speech, chiefly referring to the successful termination of the war.

Towards the end of the session a message was delivered from the prince regent, announcing the marriage of the duke of Cumberland with the princess of Salm-Braunfels, relict of the late prince, and daughter of the duke of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, brother to queen Charlotte. The union was displeasing to the queen, and the house, either from a similar moral repugnance, or dislike to the duke, negatived a grant for a marriage portion, by 126 to 125 voices.

14. The house of a maker of fire-works in Spitalfields exploded, and eight persons killed.

15. Buonaparte, who had been living at Rochefort since the 3rd, finding it impossible to elude the British cruisers, went voluntarily on board the Bellerophon, captain Maitland. Prior to this, he had sought to stipulate for a free passage, or to surrender on conditions, but neither could be conceded. From the Bellerophon he addressed the following letter to the prince regent:—"Exposed to the factions which divide my country, and to the hostility of the greatest powers of Europe, I have closed my political career. I come, like Themistocles, to seek the hospitality of the British nation. I place myself under the protection of their laws; which I claim from your royal highness, as the most powerful, the most constant, and the most generous of all my enemies." Even the flattery, to which Napoleon descended in this epistle, failed to procure for him an answer from the regent.

26. Elizabeth Fenning who had been convicted, April 16th, of an attempt to poison her master and mistress, was executed at Newgate. She protested her innocence to the last, and the multitude were so convinced of the malice of her prosecutors, that they broke their win-



dows: a vast concourse attended her funeral on the 31st.

28. The Belgic prelates, in an address to the king of the Netherlands, complained that the equal favour promised to all religions, in the new constitution, was inconsistent with catholic supremacy. They further admonished the king that it would alienate the hearts of his subjects, "with whom attachment to the catholic faith is stronger than in any other country in Europe."

31. By the explosion of a locomotive steam-engine at Newbattle, 57 persons were killed and wounded.

Aug. 7. Buonaparte transferred to the Northumberland, admiral sir George Cockburn, which sailed next day, for St. Helena: Napoleon vehemently protested against the injustice of his banishment to this island, after voluntarily surrendering himself to the hospitality of the British nation. He was accompanied in his exile by general Bertrand, Las Casas, general Gourgaud, and count Montholon.

19. Colonel Labedoyere, having been found guilty of treason, in joining Napoleon, at Grenoble, was shot on the plain of Grenelle.

Sept. 19. General Porlier attempted to excite an insurrection in Galicia, against Ferdinand VII.; failing in his enterprise he was shot at Corunna.

26. A treaty or compact signed at Paris, by the emperors of Russia and Austria, and the king of Prussia, declaring their resolution to make christianity the basis of their actions—domestic and foreign. They affirmed their delegation, by Providence, to govern "three branches of one and the same christian nation." The prince regent was invited to become a party to the "HOLY ALLIANCE;" but he contented himself with expressing his approval of its tendency.

30. A fellow at Queenborough, having left his wife and family, was taken and ordered to be flogged. As no one could be found to flog him, the mayor himself performed the duty.

Oct. 15. Buonaparte landed at St. Helena.

21. Great riot at Sunderland, the sailors refusing to let the colliers proceed to sea, till their demands for higher wages were complied with: the military were called in, and the combination dissolved by the apprehension of the president and committee.

25. Waterford cathedral damaged by fire.

31. A fire at the Mint, in the tower, which destroyed the new machinery: damage estimated at 80,000*l*.

Nov. 4. London Institution began building.

5. By a treaty concluded with Russia, the Ionian islands were placed under the protection of England.

20. SECOND TREATY OF PARIS.—The failure of Napoleon's enterprise subjected France to great humiliation. The masterpieces of art deposited in the gallery of the Louvre, and the trophies of so many victories in distant regions, were reclaimed by their former owners. Venice received back the famous Corinthian horses; Florence the Venus of Medicis; and Rome the Apollo Belvidere. By treaties and conventions signed at Paris, on the 20th, the allies were indemnified for their recent exertions by cessions of territory, and in pecuniary contributions. For the first, certain alterations in the frontier between France, and Belgium, and the Rhine, were required, not considerable in extent, but important, from leaving a free passage into the heart of France. For the second, the payment of 900,000,000 of francs to be divided among the allies. In order to retain hold on the French, seventeen fortified towns and cities were to be delivered up to the allies, to be held in trust for five years, by an army of occupation of 150,000 men, to be maintained at the expense of France. Such were the bitter fruits of the hundred day's reign of Napoleon, and the terms on which France was permitted to retain her nationality.

Dec. 7. Marshal Ney shot pursuant to his sentence in the gardens of the Luxembourg. He died nobly. The marshal had relied on the faith of the capitulation of July 3rd, and made a direct appeal to the duke of Wellington; but the duke gave it against him, affirming that the object of the capitulation was limited to the "prevention of any measure of severity, under the military authority of those who made it." This evasive interpretation was the death-warrant of the gallant Frenchman.

M. Lavalette, the post-master-general under Buonaparte, and who had been condemned to die, escaped from prison dressed in the clothes of Madame Lavalette.

Lord Cochrane sentenced to pay 100*l*. fine for escaping from the king's-bench prison. It was paid by voluntary subscription, not exceeding one penny each.

26. Eaton, a noted pedestrian, finished his task on Blackheath, of walking 1100 miles in 1100 successive hours.

ANNUAL OBITUARY. — George Ellis, F.R.S., 70, author of "Specimens of early English Poetry." William Nicholson, 57, many years editor of the "Philosophical Journal." William Hutton, F.A.S., 92, author of a "History of Birmingham." John Lettsom, M.D., 71, an eminent physician and author of numerous medical and other works., Marshal Ber-

thier, prince of Wagram, committed suicide at Bamberg, by throwing himself from a window. Mrs. Abingdon, actress, 84.

PUBLIC STATUTES. XLIII. TO LVI. OF  
GEORGE III.

43 Geo. III., c. 56. Regulates vessels conveying passengers to foreign parts, as to number, provisions, and medical aid.

Cap. 58. Prevents malicious shooting, cutting, wounding, and stabbing.

Cap. 59. County bridges and works.

Cap. 84. Spiritual persons holding farms.

Cap. 107. Bequeathing property to queen Ann's bounty.

Cap. 158. Issuing 50,000*l.* for glebe houses in Ireland.

44 Geo. III., c. 43. No person to be admitted a deacon till he attain the age of 23, nor into priest's orders till 24 years of age.

45 Geo. III., c. 50. For discouraging immoderate use of spirits in Ireland.

Cap. 54. Maintenance and employment of the poor.

46 Geo. III., c. 37. Declared unlawful for witnesses on trials to refuse answering any relevant question that has no tendency to criminate them, merely on the ground that it may establish a civil debt.

47 Geo. III., c. 36. Abolishes the African slave-trade after May 1st, 1807.

Cap. 13. sess. 2. Insurrection act, preserving peace in Ireland.

Cap. 74. Makes the real estates of traders liable, after their death, to the payment of simple contract, as well as specialty debts.

48 Geo. III., c. 60. Tanners not to be shoemakers, curriers, or leather-cutters.

Cap. 138. Regulating power of commission of teinds, in augmenting stipends of Scotch clergy.

49 Geo. III., c. 118. Preventing corruption in election of members of parliament.

Cap. 127. Augmenting salaries of twelve judges in England and Wales.

50 Geo. III., c. 117. Account of increase and diminution of public salaries to be annually laid before parliament.

51 Geo. III., c. 1. Regency act; administration of royal authority, and custody of the king during his illness.

Cap. 6. For taking a census of the population.

Cap. 34. Premium to ships employed in the southern whale fishery.

Cap. 55. Penalties on printers and publishers of books, without the printer's name.

Cap. 79. Pauper or criminal lunatics.

Cap. 122. Commission of inquiry into Irish bogs.

52 Geo. III., c. 16. Frame-breaking act. Cap. 17. Watch and ward; justices appointing rotation of.

Cap. 102. Registering charitable gifts.

Cap. 133. Taking a census of population in Ireland. The act was only partly carried into effect, and a complete census not taken till 1821.

Cap. 144. Suspending and vacating seats of members of parliament, becoming bankrupt.

Cap. 146. Marriages and births, registration of.

Cap. 147. Repealing allowances of assessed taxes in respect of number of children.

Cap. 155. For protecting religious worship of dissenters.

Cap. 162. Preserving peace in disturbed counties.

53 Geo. III., c. 40. Repeals power of justices to fix wages or prices of work.

54 Geo. III., cap. 56. Copyright in sculpture casts.

Cap. 108. Burying in woollen abolished.

Cap. 134. Maintenance of Asiatic seamen in this country.

Cap. 145. Abolishes corruption of blood, except in poison or murder.

Cap. 146. Punishment in treason limited to drawing on a hurdle, hanging, and beheading; disembowelling and burning abolished.

Cap. 156. Fixes copyright of books for 28 years absolute, and for the life of the author if he survive that period.

55 Geo. III., c. 42. Establishes trial by jury in civil causes in Scotland.

Cap. 47. Returns of expense and maintenance of the poor.

Cap. 57. Exclusive privileges of South Sea Company abolished.

Cap. 128. For establishing telegraph stations.

Cap. 194. Regulating practice of apothecaries.

REVENUE, DEBT, TAXES.

The financial history of the war, from 1793, to the conclusion of a permanent peace in 1815, may be divided into three periods. First, the four years previous to 1797, during which no great fiscal effort was made, and the treasury was conducted, as in former wars, without any innovation in regard to war-taxes or paper-money. Second, the interval from 1797 to 1805, in which we had war-taxes to a considerable amount, and an inconvertible paper-money, but without greatly depreciating one, or carrying the other to an extreme. Third, the period from 1805 to 1815, in which the supplies raised within the year became



enormous, and the depreciation of paper, particularly after entering into the war in Spain, in 1809, augmented greatly financial difficulties.

The sum raised by taxes and loans, during the war in 1793, has been already stated (p. 634). The subjoined is a corresponding statement for the war of 1803:—

Years.	By Taxes.	By Loans.
1803	£37,679,063	£15,202,931
1804	45,359,442	20,104,221
1805	49,659,281	27,931,482
1806	53,304,254	20,486,155
1807	58,390,225	23,889,257
1808	61,538,207	20,476,765
1809	63,405,294	23,404,691
1810	66,681,366	22,428,788
1811	64,763,870	27,416,829
1812	63,169,854	40,251,689
1813	66,925,835	54,026,822
1814	69,684,192	47,159,697
1815	70,403,442	46,089,603
	<u>£770,962,331</u>	<u>£388,766,925</u>

The total money raised by taxes and loans, exclusive of 46,612,106*l.*, for the service of Ireland, was 1,113,000,000*l.*; deducting from this sum an average peace expenditure of 22,000,000*l.* for 13 years, the cost of the war was 827,000,000*l.* If to this sum be added the expenditure of the war of 1793, amounting to 284,214,731*l.*, it shows that the French revolutionary war cost England 1,111,214,731*l.*, being an average yearly expenditure, during 23 years of hostilities, of 48,314,000*l.* The expenditure of the war of 1793 was nearly double that of any preceding contest; and the expenditure of the war of 1803 exceeded that of 1793 in the proportion of more than three to one. It is to be observed, however, that the enormous expenditure of the latter years of the war was swelled by the accumulation of interest on the previous expenditure, and the depreciation of the currency amounting, after 1810, to full 20 per cent.

The PUBLIC DEBT at the beginning and conclusion of the war of 1803, was as follows:—

	Principal. £.	Interest. £.		
Debt in 1803	629,467,529	27,043,625	Brought forward	£41,670,183
Debt in 1815	1,121,407,936	43,984,579	Land and assessed taxes	7,911,938
			Post-office	2,349,519
			Pensions, &c.	32,057
			Hackney coaches and hawkers	50,875
			Hereditary revenues	173,367
			War customs	2,841,406
			— excise	6,737,029
			Property-tax	15,227,500
			Income-tax	314
			Lottery	327,907
			Miscellaneous	260,173
			Gross receipt	77,582,268
			Drawbacks and balances	6,429,126
			Actual taxation	£71,153,142

Increase £491,940,407 £16,940,954  
The debt did not accumulate so fast in the second as in the first period of hostilities. In the war of 1803, a greater part of the expense was defrayed by the property-tax, the assessed taxes, and other supplies raised within the year. In 1815 the public income, exclusive of Ireland, was as follow:—

Excise	£23,370,055
Customs	11,807,323
Stamps	6,492,805
Carried forward	£41,670,183

Return of the annual value, the rate of assessment per pound, and gross assessment under the PROPERTY TAX, for the year ending April 5th, 1815.—(Parl. Pap. No. 59. Sess. 1823.)

	Annual value. £.	Gross assessments. £.
Lands, tenements, and hereditaments, for every 20 <i>s.</i> of the annual value 2 <i>s.</i>	60,138,330	5,923,486
Occupiers of lands, dwelling-houses, and tenements, 1 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> ; Scotland, 1 <i>s.</i>	38,396,143	2,734,450
Annuities and dividends arising out of any public revenues, 2 <i>s.</i>	28,855,050	2,885,505
Increase and profits from professions, trade, or vocations, 2 <i>s.</i>	38,310,935	3,831,088
Public offices, pensions, and stipends, 1 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>	11,744,557	1,174,455
Total	£177,451,015	£16,548,984

## COMMERCE, SHIPPING, AGRICULTURE.

The progress of commerce, during the second period of the war, was eventful, and marked by extraordinary vicissitudes. In the interval between 1807 and 1809, our supplies of many articles of foreign production were in danger of being abridged or entirely cut off. From a great portion of the continent, the anti-commercial decrees of Napoleon interdicted all intercourse: and after the attack on Copenhagen, Russia and Denmark joined the league against this country. The orders in council on our part, and the non-intercourse acts and embargoes on the part of the Americans, destroyed all traffic with the United States. Our exclusion from these markets caused great speculative avidity, and the prices of hemp, wax, tallow, cotton, silk, and tobacco, rose enormously. There was also a rise in the price of agricultural produce, owing to a decided failure in the crops of 1809. About the time the markets in Europe became narrowed for British manufactures, a new field of adventure opened in South America, by the emancipation of the Spanish colonies. This gave an impulse to domestic industry; but the shipments to South America were much beyond the amount of capital the adventurers could fairly command, and still more beyond what the consumption of the places, for which the investments were destined, could absorb, upon the condition of making adequate returns. To support these speculations the country bankers, and the bank of England, increased their issues of paper. But this prosperity was ephemeral. In 1810 prices began to recede; and in the autumn of that year, and spring of the following, there was a mercantile reaction.

In 1815 there was a second revulsion in trade, which arose out of our over-trading to the Continent on the overthrow of the French emperor. The markets abroad being glutted with our commodities, prices fell ruinously low, and English manufactures were sold on terms that scarcely defrayed insurance and shipping charges. In Holland the market had been so overstocked, that our manufactures were actually cheaper than in England. The bankers had in this, as in the former instance, fostered the spirit of over-speculation, and many of them became bankrupts.

Notwithstanding these vicissitudes, the commerce of the kingdom increased in the second as in the first period of the French war. The average official value of our exports in the nine years of the war of 1793 was 30,760,000*l*. The average in ten years of the second war, from 1803 to 1812, inclusive, was 42,145,000*l*. The following statement shows the tons of shipping that cleared outwards, and the official value of the cargoes exported from Britain between 1802 and 1815. The accounts for the year 1813 were lost by the fire at the Custom-house:—

Years.	Tonnage.	Value of Cargoes.
1803	2,019,382	£31,438,495
1804	2,051,135	34,451,367
1805	1,900,609	34,308,545
1806	2,053,713	36,527,184
1807	2,050,013	34,566,571
1808	1,654,944	34,554,267
1809	2,230,902	50,286,900
1810	2,862,801	45,869,859
1811	2,203,585	32,409,671
1812	2,206,420	43,243,173
1813		
1814	2,447,298	56,624,229
1815	2,759,720	60,983,063

AGRICULTURE, like commerce, underwent great vicissitudes, and, like it, continued to advance in spite of occasional depressions. Owing to the favourable seasons of 1801–3, the price of wheat fell to 3*l*. a quarter; a fall which led to the corn-law of 1804, by which the import of foreign wheat was in a manner prohibited until our own should be at or above 6*s*., and taxed till our own reached 66*s*. High as these prices then seemed, they were subsequently greatly surpassed, partly from the depreciation of the currency, the interruption of neutral traffic, and a deficient harvest.

In 1812 and 1813 wheat rose to 66*s*. a quarter, a rate ill-calculated to prepare the farmer for the approaching revulsion. After the peace of 1814, imports co-operating with favourable seasons, the price of corn fell rapidly, and it was in vain parliament passed (in 1815) a new corn-law, by which the importation of foreign wheat was prohibited till the home-price of our own wheat exceeded 80*s*. The market continued low, and for a time exposed both the farmers and the public to the evils of sudden transition.

The following statement will show the average expense of farming in England before the war and its increase, up to the last year of hostilities. It shows the expense of cultivating 100 acres of arable land, in England, at three distant periods, calculated on an average of the returns made to circular letters from the Board of Agriculture, to farmers in different parts of the kingdom:—

	1790.			1803.			1813.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Rent	88	6	3½	121	2	7½	161	12	7½
Tithe	20	14	1½	26	8	0½	38	17	3½



	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Brought forward	109	0	5½	147	10	7¾	200	9	11¼
Rates	17	13	10	31	7	7¾	38	19	2¾
Wear and Tear	15	13	5½	22	11	10¼	31	2	10¾
Labour	85	5	4¾	118	0	4	161	12	11¾
Seed	46	4	10½	49	2	7	98	17	10
Manure	48	3	0	68	6	2	37	7	0¼
Teams	67	4	10	80	8	0¼	134	19	8¾
Interest	22	11	11½	30	3	8¾	50	5	6
Taxes	—	—	—	—	—	—	18	1	4
Total	£411	15	11¾	547	10	11¾	771	16	4¼

## PRICES, CONSUMPTION, MORTALITY.

Prices of PUBLIC STOCKS in January ;  
the number of BANKRUPTS in each year ;  
and the average price per quarter of  
WHEAT at Windsor market :—

Yr.	3 per Ct.	Bk.	India.	Bks.	Wt.
1803	70	187	212	901	60
1804	55	150	171	910	69
1805	59	172	184	866	83
1806	60	194	187	865	88
1807	61	212	182	1022	78
1808	63	225	172	1058	79
1809	66	240	182	1670	106
1810	69	175	177	2000	112
1811	66	241	178	1616	108
1812	62	230	181	1599	128
1813	60	222	164	1066	120
1814	65	245	191	1285	85
1815	64	255	192	2029	76

CIRCULATION of the Bank of England ;  
Number of Barrels of BEER charged to the  
Excise duty in England and Wales ; and  
the pounds' weight of TEA sold at the Sales  
of the East India Company :—

Year.	Circulation.	Beer.	Tea.
	£.	Barrels.	lbs.
1803	16,305,630	7,244,303	25,401,468
1804	17,115,860	7,045,193	23,089,267
1805	17,129,785	7,198,938	24,926,560
1806	19,378,795	7,215,256	22,887,530
1807	18,314,520	7,309,886	24,077,824
1808	17,650,075	7,281,603	25,901,451
1809	19,558,520	7,196,010	2,920,052
1810	22,906,795	7,388,907	24,958,255
1811	23,323,535	5,625,426	23,058,496
1812	23,217,605	7,454,263	24,856,914
1813	24,019,525	6,838,605	25,895,005
1814	26,584,680	7,056,744	29,597,055
1815	27,255,160	7,667,846	27,787,239

PRICES of the following articles of consumption, exclusive of the duty, were as follows :—

Year.	Coals.	Coffee.	Flour.	Sugar.	Tea.
	pr chal.	pr cwt.	pr sack.	pr cwt.	per lb.
1803	37	125	50	30	20
1804	37	150	50	41	22

1805	38	169	95	52	26
1806	36	170	65	41	22
1807	38	140	75	29	22
1808	39	110	70	28	29
1809	45	120	80	50	24
1810	46	125	90	48	24
1811	40	100	80	42	21
1812	39	85	100	42	23
1813	40	97	110	53	32
1814	46	135	90	70	35
1815	41	116	62	70	38

Newcastle coal ; coffee, the highest priced Jamaica ; sugar, raw brown Jamaica ; tea, Bohea. Prices are stated in shillings, except tea, which is in pence.

CATTLE and SHEEP sold in Smithfield market ; with the CHRISTENINGS and BURIALS within the London Bills of Mortality :—

Yr.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Burials.	Chstgs.
1803	117,551	787,430	19,582	20,943
1804	113,019	903,930	17,038	21,543
1805	125,043	812,410	17,565	20,295
1806	120,250	858,570	17,938	20,380
1807	134,326	924,050	18,334	19,416
1808	144,042	1,015,280	19,945	19,906
1809	137,600	989,250	16,080	19,612
1810	132,155	962,750	19,893	19,930
1811	125,012	966,400	17,043	20,645
1812	133,854	953,630	18,295	20,399
1813	137,770	891,240	17,322	20,528
1814	135,071	870,880	19,783	20,170
1815	124,948	962,840	19,560	23,414

## ARMY AND NAVY.

Our splendid naval victories during the early part of the war, and the failure of most of our land expeditions, threw the army into the back-ground ; but England had antecedently established her claim to be considered a great military power. The continental wars of William III., and the triumphs of Marlborough in the next reign, proved us powerful enough to take a foremost part on land as well as by sea. In peace the military force was fixed at a low scale : the standing army of king William was reduced to 7000 men, and that of

George II. did not exceed 17,000, exclusive of the troops in Ireland. But the nation's strength was shown in the subsequent war, when called forth by the energies of the earl of Chatham. In 1762, the last year of hostilities, the total number of men employed in the army and navy, including militia and foreign troops, was 337,106 (p. 461). Of this number 51,645 were seamen, and 18,335 marines. Such a display of force was very extraordinary, considering the population of the kingdom at the time, and was hardly exceeded during any period of the French revolutionary war. In March, 1804, lord Liverpool declared in parliament that our army and navy, including militia, but exclusive of volunteers, was about 400,000; being more than one in ten of the able-bodied population of the United Kingdom. France, he added, had at that time in arms about 560,000 men, or one in fourteen of her able-bodied population. Austria had on foot also one man in fourteen, and Russia nearly the same proportion. Prussia was the only power whose military force (about 240,000) bore, like ours, the proportion of one in ten to her able-bodied males.

After the peace of Paris, in 1763, the standing army was fixed, including the troops in Ireland and in garrisons abroad, at about 40,000 men. It did not greatly exceed this amount after the termination of the unfortunate contest with the American colonies. In 1792 the regular military, exclusive of artillery and marines, and of the East Indies, amounted to 45,242 men. The following is a statement of the military force of the empire, regular and irregular, and of its distribution in 1792:—

In Britain	15,919
In Ireland	12,000
In colonies	17,323
Royal artillery	3,730
Ditto marines	4,425
<hr/>	
Total, regulars	53,397
Militia disembodied	33,410
<hr/>	
Total, regulars & irregulars	86,809

In 1815 the regular force amounted to 220,714 men; reduced in 1821 to 101,539; in 1834, to 88,519; which is about the present amount of our peace establishment.

The British navy at the accession of George III. consisted of 412 ships, the force and distribution of which have been before stated (p. 460). During part of the American war, owing to defective discipline, the combined fleets of France and Spain seemed to have an ascendancy till our previous superiority was restored by

the victories of admiral Rodney. Napoleon, after mastering the Continent, indulged the hope of being able to cope with us at sea, thereby opening a path for a descent on our shores; but after the decisive overthrow at Trafalgar, he gave up the idea of becoming a naval power. The subjoined statements seem to comprise the chief information necessary to elucidate the progress of the army and navy during the war. Recruiting continued with unabated activity during the whole contest: either the alarm of invasion, or the continental aggrandisement of the enemy, imposing on the country the necessity of a strong and vigilant defensive attitude. The plan of enlisting for limited periods, which began in 1806, greatly facilitated recruiting; and, after engaging in the struggle for Spanish independence that united all hearts, the augmentation of the army was popular, and additional importance became attached to the military arm of the national strength.

**Total Expense of the Army, Navy, and Ordnance from 1790 to 1815, inclusive:—**

1791	4,226,000	1804	30,854,000
1792	8,750,000	1805	36,219,000
1793	13,511,000	1806	37,706,000
1794	20,247,000	1807	36,176,000
1795	28,751,000	1808	39,778,000
1796	30,165,000	1809	42,073,000
1797	27,606,000	1810	43,246,000
1798	25,982,000	1811	47,968,000
1799	27,257,000	1812	49,739,000
1800	29,613,000	1813	54,872,000
1801	26,998,000	1814	60,239,000
1802	23,121,000	1815	43,282,000
1803	21,106,000		

**Statement of Ships in Commission and in Ordinary in 1792 and 1815:—**

	Rates.	1792.		1815.	
		Com.	Ord.	Com.	Ord.
1st.	.	—	7	1	12
2nd.	.	2	19	2	15
3rd.	.	10	102	22	173
4th.	.	5	16	5	15
5th.	.	14	79	50	100
6th.	.	12	30	25	80
Small vessels, &c.		81	179	113	167

**MEN OF LETTERS.**

James Beattie, L.L.D., poet and miscellaneous writer, 1735—1803. "Essay on Truth," 1770; "The Minstrel," 1774; "Evidences of the Christian Religion," 1786.

Joseph Priestley, L.L.D., F.R.S., philosopher and divine, 1733—1804. "Essay on Government," 1764; "History of Electricity," 1767; "Discoveries relative to



Vision, Light, and Colours;" "Disquisitions on Matter and Spirit," 1777; "History of the Corruptions of Christianity;" "Letters to a Philosophical Unbeliever;" besides various papers in the "Philosophical Transactions," and a great many theological and controversial productions. Priestley was a voluminous author, his entire works amounting to 70 vols., 8vo.

Rev. W. Gilpin, 1724—1804. "Lives of John Wicliff, &c.," 1764; "Remarks on Forest Scenery;" "Exposition of the New Testament," 1790.

William Paley, D.D., theologian and philosopher, 1743—1805. "Elements of Moral and Political Philosophy," 1785; "Horæ Paulinæ;" "View of the Evidence of Christianity," 1794; "Natural Theology," 1802.

Samuel Horsley, L.L.D., prelate and mathematician, 1733—1806. "Power of God deduced from the Solar System," 1767; "Apollonius on Inclinations," 1770; "Dissensions of the Royal Society," 1784; "Biblical Criticisms," 4 vols. 8vo.

Charles James Fox, M.P., 1748—1806. Letter to the Electors of Westminster," 1793; "History of the Early Part of the Reign of James II." (Posthumous.)

John Whitaker, divine and antiquary, 1759—1808. "History of Manchester," 1771; "Mary, Queen of Scots Vindicated," 3 vols. 8vo., 1787; "Course of Hannibal over the Alps."

John Horne Tooke, 1736—1812. "Diversions of Purley," 1786; a second part of the "Diversions," in 1805. Mr. Tooke was also author of several political pamphlets, and some letters in reply to Junius.

Richard Cumberland, drama and miscellaneous, 1732—1811. "The West-Indian," 1771; "Anecdotes of Spanish Painters;" "Calvary;" "The London Review," "The Observer."

Richard Porson, critic and classical scholar, 1759—1808. "The Tragedies of Euripides," 1795; "Æschylus's Tragedies;" "Letters on the Three Heavenly Witnesses, mentioned 1 John, v. 7;" "Adversaria; or, Emendations of the Greek Poets."

Thomas Beddoes, physician and medical writer, 1760—1808.

John Home, Scottish divine and dramatist, 1724—1808. "Douglas," 1756; "History of the Rebellion of 1745."

Nevil Maskelyne, D.D., 1732—1811. "The Nautical Almanac," 1767; "The British Mariner's Guide;" "Astronomical Observations."

John M'Diarmid, 1779—1807. "Inquiry into the Military Defence of Great Britain," 1803; "Civil and Military Subordination;" "Lives of British Statesmen."

Charles Burney, 1726—1814. "Musical Tour through France and Italy," 1771; "History of Music," 1776; "Life of Metastasio," 1796; "Essay on Comets."

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GEORGE III. A.D. 1816 to 1820.

THE national joyousness of war may exceed that of peace, but its joys are more fallacious, if not criminal. It is a period of exertion, of high excitement, in which a consciousness of internal maladies is forgotten in the death-struggle for foreign mastery. Moreover, it is a season of spending, waste, and reckless prodigality. It is a delirious state—intoxicated by victories, if successful—bursting into rage, or sinking into despondency, if defeated. Peace, on the contrary, is less obnoxious to extremes. It is a time of quiet, of reckoning up, saving, and forethought. The smallest evils that exist are felt; all that are impending are imagined and magnified. War affords a ready excuse for every disorder, every public privation, every remedial postponement; but peace is the ordeal of rulers. Public burdens are nicely weighed, and the pretext for their continuance scrutinised. Not only is the physical condition of the people considered, but their laws, religion, political rights, and even morals, become the common topics of investigation. There is leisure for everything, as well as disengaged talent, energy, and enterprise. The troubles and entanglements of peace are mostly the bitter fruits of war; but the glories of war can only be won by dissipating the blessings peace has accumulated.

It was only after the storm had subsided that England became sensible of the wounds received in her late tremendous struggle. While hostilities lasted, she felt neither weakness nor disorder. Though a principal in the war, she had been exempt from its worst calamities. Battles were fought, countries were overrun and desolated, but her own border remained unasailable. Like a spectator viewing securely the tempest at a distance, she was only sensible of its fury by the wreck of neighbouring nations, wafted at intervals to her shores. Up to the period of our interference in Peninsular affairs, we carried on the war mostly by deputy; and the immense subsidies by which we hired, in succession, every continental gladiator, did not impose a proportionate and immediate sacrifice. By the modern device of anticipating future resources, a large portion of the burden was thrown on posterity; so that George III. and his contemporaries enjoyed the *sport* of this royal pastime, leaving to distant ages to bear the cost and incumbrance.

The cessation of hostilities, in 1815, was like the cessation of motion in a gigantic machine, which has been urged to its maximum velocity. One of the first results of peace was an enormous diminution in the war expenditure of the government. During the five last years of the war, the public expenditure averaged 108,720,000*l.* During the five first years of peace it averaged 64,660,000*l.* Peace thus caused an immediate reduction of nearly fifty millions in the amount of money expended by government in the support of domestic industry.

During the war, all our establishments, private as well as public, had been formed on a large scale,—a scale that supposed a power of consumption and of payment much greater than was found to exist after the peace. This was the case, not only in the public offices, but private establishments of the most dissimilar character: manufacturers, mercantile houses, seminaries of education, and a variety of undertakings, almost all of which, whether in the metropolis or provincial towns, were adapted to a community increasing in numbers and its means of expenditure. In no former contest had our military force been so great: the number of militia-men, soldiers, and sailors discharged, amounted to between two and three hundred thousand, of whom many returned to productive labour, while a considerable proportion of manufacturers, perhaps not less than one hundred thousand, ceased to receive employment in preparing clothing, arms, and other military stores. Hence a rapid redundancy of products, and no less rapid fall in wages and profits. Similar causes were in operation on the continent. Almost all Europe had been in military array, and every country felt the sudden change from the disembodying of armies, cessation of government purchases, and surplus of labourers. The embarrassments of our neighbours augmented our own. Add to this, that our chief customers, the United States of America, had suffered so severely from the stoppage of their navigation by the belligerents, as to be far less able to pay for our goods than before the ruinous Orders in Council. Our foreign trade, more from irregularity of payment than diminution of amount, failed to prove an efficient source of relief; and internal distress was augmented by the immense number of absentees, who, as travellers or as residents on the continent, expended large sums abroad, when most wanted at home.

Transitions, whether from peace to war or war to peace, invariably produce derangements, if not aggregate loss, in the economical relations of the community. In the first, there is the abandonment of various projects of



improvement, as roads, canals, bridges, and buildings; and of undertakings in commerce, agriculture, and manufactures, that depend on a low rate of interest, and moderate price of labour: in the last are the derangements just alluded to, of soldiers and seamen discharged, foreign colonies relinquished, manufactures, suited to a state of war, suspended, workmen and capital put out of employment, and the public loaded with enormous debts, and the maintenance of reduced placemen, and naval and military supernumeraries.

During the war, the country was in the state deemed most cheerful and animated, namely, the progressive, not the stationary, which is dull, nor the retrograde, which is melancholy. Employment was abundant, both for capital and industry. All incomes, except those fixed by law, were increasing, and every one seemed growing rich. Wages and salaries, profits, rents, and tithe, were all on the advance. Much of this prosperity was fallacious, arising from the expenditure of borrowed money by government, and the depreciation of the currency; but it was not less effective than real in producing general intoxication. Owing to these causes, incomes increased faster than wealth, generating expensive habits among all classes, which were reluctantly abandoned on the return of peace. It must not, however, be inferred that capital did not increase as well as income during the war. It certainly did. Our unrivalled industry and mechanical improvements were more than a match both for the prodigality of the people and their rulers; and the capital of the country increased enormously, though not so fast, nor on so solid a foundation, as in the subsequent reign of George IV.

The difficulties of the first years of peace were augmented by unfavourable harvests. That of 1815 was rather above the average; but in 1816 there was a great and general deficiency. In 1817 and 1818 the crops did not exceed an average. During these two years the average price of wheat was 89s. a quarter. The high price of provisions, combined with the low wages produced by scarcity of employment, caused very general discontent, especially in the manufacturing districts.

Upon these elements the political agitation we are about to notice began to work. In times of industrial prosperity the masses take little interest in public affairs; their differences are with their employers. Encouraged by the demand for labour, they seek by combination to extort higher wages. The struggle continues till high prices and overstocked markets produce a mercantile revulsion: then workmen are discharged, wages lowered, and masters recover their ascendancy. It is in this state of depression that workmen begin to listen to representations of public grievances. Republican writings increase in circulation; abstract theories of government are propounded; and the equal right of all to share in political franchises is boldly asserted and readily believed. While the popular excitement lasts the property-classes keep aloof, having no wish to countenance opinions incompatible with their present immunities; and the aristocratic politicians of all parties either combine against the common enemy, or suspend the agitation of their mutual differences.

This was the state of the country in 1816: in the metropolis and in the northern counties there were vast assemblages of people in the open air, but they were unattended by the rich and influential. Working men called the meetings, drew up resolutions, and made speeches, setting forth the evils of non-representation, of libticide wars, of the pressure of taxes

levied on the industrious, to be squandered in extravagant salaries, sinecures, and unmerited pensions—for all which the remedy prescribed was a RADICAL REFORM of the house of commons, on the basis of universal suffrage, annual parliaments, and vote by ballot. Of such doctrines there were supporters in parliament, namely, sir Francis Burdett, lords Folkestone and Cochrane, and Mr. Hobhouse; out of it, the chief leaders were Major Cartwright, sir C. Wolseley, and Messrs. Cobbett, Wooler, Hunt, Hone, and Sherwin.

At this period the government was directed by men unswayed by high principles, of secondary abilities, and meanly subservient to the will of the prince regent. The popular demands were met with haughtiness and insult. Coercion, in lieu of conciliation, was determined upon: the Habeas Corpus Act was suspended; suspected persons imprisoned; the press silenced by persecutions; victims were sought to be obtained by stretching the treason-laws; and the metropolis and the provinces overrun with government spies, who acted a diabolical part.

Elated by the triumph over Napoleon, a course of foreign policy was pursued, inimical to the solid interests of the country, and which required the maintenance of a large military establishment in the time of peace. A standing force of 176,000 men was demanded in 1816, when there did not exist the most distant danger from any external enemy. In the speech of the regent, the "security of the country" was not, indeed, the only reason assigned for this enormous army. It was also "to be suitable to its station and high character among the European powers." There was neither the ambition of Louis XIV., the maintenance of the balance of power, nor the interests of the electoral dominions to plead; so a novel pretext was discovered. It was not the safety of ourselves or neighbours that was sought, but military ostentation. Not satisfied with maritime supremacy, we sought territorial distinction. The aim seemed to be to make a Germanised military figure, to become a leading military, as well as naval power; and the thirst of universal empire, imputed to the French emperor, was imbibed by the British ministry.

Though the policy of government was unpopular, the political effervescence subsided towards the close of 1817. This was partly occasioned by the revival of trade, and partly by ministerial coercion. The fall of prices having quickened the consumption of commodities, they began gradually to rise from their minimum depression, by which manufacturing industry and commercial enterprise were stimulated. Under the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act, the leading reformers were imprisoned, or awed into prudential silence. Popular alarm subsided by the explosion of the *espionnage system*, it having been discovered that Oliver, Castles, Edwards, Franklin, and other agents of the Home-office, had been the chief fomenters, by speeches and writings, of the seditious acts in the metropolis and the northern counties. The experiment, however, of the masses to effect political reforms, by their own unaided efforts, had entirely failed. Upwards of a million and a half of persons petitioned for universal suffrage and annual parliaments, but their prayers were unheeded by the legislature. They excited no debate, nor hardly an observation. Unsupported by the intelligence and property of the community, the petitioners were felt to be powerless, and their aims impracticable. Government, on this as on former occasions, was strengthened by violence, and an old lesson was a third time repeated. In 1780 parliamentary reform, as we have seen, was just



on the eve of accomplishment, by a combined effort of the middle and upper ranks, when the end was frustrated, and all desire for it ceased, through the intervention of the riots of lord George Gordon. A dread of the ascendancy of the multitude was diffused among the wealthy, and they shrank back dismayed from all co-operation in political changes. A similar re-action ensued in 1793, differing from the former only in the fact, that one originated in religious, the other in political zeal. "Toryism," says Mr. Cooke, "never was so strong; Whiggism, nay, democracy, never was so weak, as whilst Thelwall was haranguing from his tribune, Gerald declaiming among the friends of free debate, and Condorcet congratulating the Corresponding Society that the throne of George III., founded on sophistry and error, was nearly sapped through by republican truths."\* In a storm, or when one impends, the pilot is looked up to as a god, though at other times he is treated, as he may deserve to be, as an indifferent character.

In 1818 the country was prosperous and tranquil. Such was the representation of the regent's speech on the meeting of parliament. The state-prisoners were permitted to return to their families, and ministers obtained a bill of indemnity, to protect them against the penalties of illegal acts committed during the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act. It was a transitory gleam that soon ended in gathering clouds, and the old yoke-fellows, commercial difficulties and political discontent, re-appeared on the scene. Towards the end of the year prices, which had obtained a considerable elevation, began to recede, and the usual consequences followed—numerous bankruptcies, the destruction of private credit, and scarcity of employment in the manufacturing districts. The itinerant orators who had recently escaped from the dungeons of the Secretary of State, resumed their tours of agitation, and the cheap political pamphlets, which contained the diagnosis and cure of social maladies, rapidly increased in number and circulation. In the summer of 1819 the popular excitement was extreme. At the chief towns in Lancashire, Yorkshire, and the north-west of Scotland, field-meetings were held, attended by vast multitudes of work-people, who listened to vehement harangues, descriptive of their wrongs, and the abuses of the government. Associations began to be formed, delegates appointed, and the more ardent prepared for an appeal to physical force, by nocturnal trainings in military exercises. At Manchester the project was started, and partly executed, of proceeding in a body to London, to petition the prince regent. At a great meeting in Birmingham, a "legislatorial attorney" was chosen, by show of hands, for the purpose of demanding admission into the house of commons, as the legal representative of the inhabitants. This example was about being followed by other unrepresented towns, when the public authorities became alarmed, and the tendency to a general insurrectionary movement arrested by the military execution of the people at Manchester, on the 16th of August, and the passing by parliament of the celebrated SIX ACTS.

The details of these extraordinary measures are given in the Occurrences. They were strong, went beyond the emergency, and could only have been sanctioned by a ministry which had shown itself more enamoured of the despotisms of the continent than of the English constitution. The massacre of Glencoe, in the reign of William III., formed the only historical parallel that could be found to the outrage perpetrated by the magistrates and yeo-

\* History of Party, vol. iii. p. 412.

manry of Manchester. Granting that the meetings of the reformers had become dangerous to the public peace; that they were of an unlawful character; they ought to have been suppressed by a lawful procedure, not magisterial violence. Numbers, it was alleged, constituted force—force, terror—terror, illegality. The object of the Manchester meeting to petition for parliamentary reform was admitted to be legal; but the numbers that assembled, and the manner of assembling in military array, with banners and flags, inscribed with threatening mottoes of “Liberty or Death,” creating alarm in the minds of the peaceably disposed, were declared to constitute its unlawfulness. Its illegality, then, ought to have been declared beforehand; if that had failed, no more violence ought to have been employed than was needful to secure the arrest of the ringleaders, and that only after the forms which the law prescribes had been observed. At most, the offence was only a misdemeanor; but the outrage committed was such as could be only legally justified in resisting a burglary, murder, or other capital crime.

The prince regent was ill-advised enough to return a letter of thanks for a catastrophe which all must have deplored, after the heat had subsided. Motions for a parliamentary inquiry into the Manchester transaction were peremptorily rejected by large ministerial majorities. Courts of justice were open, but the grand juries threw out the bills presented against individuals of the yeomanry force; and the local magistrates, sheltering themselves under their decision, refused to entertain charges against the accused. Coroner’s inquests were held on the bodies of those who lost their lives by the furious charge of the cavalry; but the proceedings were either quashed, as in the case of the Oldham inquest, by the court of king’s bench, or such verdicts returned by the juries as could lead to no judicial proceeding. Some were “accidental death;” another, on a child, “died by a fall from its mother’s arms;” a third, “died by the pressure of the military, being under the civil power.”\* In all the homicide was accidental, excusable, or justifiable.

These results indicated the state of feeling among the middle and upper ranks, who, alarmed by the acts, no less than the doctrines of the more intemperate of the Radicals, congregated round the constituted authorities. By some writers of this party, republican sentiments were promulgated, the killing of kings openly justified, the truths of Christianity impugned, and the institution of property decried as an usurpation on the common rights of the people. The Whigs were divided as to the aspect of the times, but mostly lent their support to the executive government. Mr. Brougham, in the house of commons, denounced some of the weekly pamphlets which now circulated in great numbers among the working classes, as of a seditious and blasphemous tendency, and reprehended the supineness of the law-officers of the crown in not prosecuting the authors. Mr. Plunkett, the organ of the Grenvilles in the lower house, pronounced the meeting at Manchester illegal, and deprecated parliamentary inquiry. In this opinion Mr. Wilberforce, to the surprise of many, coincided, and said, “that the majority of thinking persons were satisfied with the steps taken by the magistrates of Manchester, and would be dissatisfied if inquiry at the bar were instituted.”† Such being the prevalent sentiments of the

\* Annual Register, vol. lxi. p. 107.

† Belsham’s History of Great Britain, xiv. 296.



legislature, the coercive measures of ministers passed with little effective opposition, the Grenvilles giving their strenuous support to the new code of laws; and the great body of the religious out of doors, alarmed at the infidel spirit abroad, throwing their weight into the same scale, the administration, though far from popular, succeeded almost triumphantly in making an unprecedented inroad on the national liberties.\*

About the time the Six Acts passed, the old king died. The mental disorder, which for the last nine years had disqualified him for the executive government; continued, without a lucid interval, up to his demise. In the relations of private life, and in capacity for government, GEORGE III. was superior to his two immediate predecessors. Exemplary in the observance of the conjugal duties, religious, moral, and temperate, his conduct was in accordance with the national standard of propriety and decorum. His memory was retentive, his judgment shrewd and circumspect; his demeanour in pressing emergencies fearless and unflinching. He was consistent and conscientious; never knowingly a wrong-doer. In conversation he was easy and familiar, but inquisitive and repetitious. He possessed no remarkable accomplishment, nor educational acquirement. For science and literature he had little taste; and the occupations of his leisure consisted of hunting, agriculture, mechanical contrivances, military reviews, music, the theatres, and rustic festivals.

Though the king was by birth an Englishman, the predilections of the Hanoverian elector had not become extinct. That the Brunswick family was still German is shewn by the education given to the princes. Of the king's seven sons five were educated in Germany, and with the exception of the duke of Sussex, whose health rendered such an education impracticable, they were all educated as the younger sons of other German princes; that is to say, as German military.

It was a common opinion at the commencement of the present reign, and indeed through the entire course of it, that the king had more confidential advisers than his responsible ministers. These constituted the king's friends, or what was called by the earl of Chatham, the "influence behind the throne," but which influence, it is now certain, did not exist; and the imputation was probably only a factious invention, in revenge for the king having, in the exercise of his prerogative, broken through the jobbing combinations of the aristocratic parties. The most favoured ministers of George III. were only his servants, whom he dismissed when disagreeable, or unable, from the loss of a parliamentary majority, to carry on the government of the country. His conduct in this respect occasionally savoured of ingratitude, if not dissimulation; for some of his councillors, who most flattered themselves in their ascendancy, were surprised with a sudden manifestation of royal forgetfulness and independence.

The king's ambition to rule unfettered was accompanied with a counter-vailing evil; it threw the government into the hands of a meaner agency than that of the great families. During the present reign the executive was chiefly carried on by the needy cadets of noble families, or legal adventurers, whose politics were secondary to objects of professional ambition and emolument. Hence the supremacy of Toryism. Next to ecclesiastics mere lawyers are the least independent, the least gifted with political wisdom;

\* In the opinion of the religious, "the worst feature of the disaffected was their zeal against the Christian faith." (*Life of Wilberforce, by his Sons*, v. 40.)—"Heretofore," says Mr. Wilberforce, in one of his private memoranda, "they inveighed against the inequality of property, and used every artifice to alienate the people from the constitution of their country. But now they are sapping the foundations of the social edifice more effectually by attacking Christianity."—(*Ibid.*)

and it is to the influence of Mansfield, Kenyon, Thurlow, Loughborough, Ellenborough, Eldon, and Perceval, that much of the arbitrariness and bigotry of the court may be ascribed. The early part of the reign was least exceptionable. The conclusion of peace in 1763, amidst splendid successes, was magnanimous. There was, however, little dignity in the contest with Wilkes; nor in the exasperation manifested about the political trifles which drew forth the ire of Junius. The independence of the American colonies was one of those junctures in the history of nations, that a government can neither avoid, nor without loss of character quietly submit to. However, the issue was favourable to both—barring the pecuniary entailments of the mother country,—and the loss of empire in the West was replaced by new acquisitions in the East. In the French revolutionary war, though the king was a leading alarmist, he had the support of the rich and titled, whose wishes in every community are equivalent to laws, and cannot be disregarded. But he was more pertinacious in the continuance of hostilities both with America and France, than the most belligerent of his subjects. George III., indeed, lacked the most shining part of a Christian, in not being a lover of peace, but prone to war, which was less excusable, as he neither shared its perils nor privations. While Europe was being made a vast pool of blood, through the stimulus of English subsidies, the court was being amused with Dutch fairs, jaunts to watering-places, and the pageantry of militia and volunteer reviews. The king's chief virtues were domestic; his vices those that distress nations.

In domestic government there was little scope for eulogium. The ascendancy of Toryism was interrupted only by fitful interludes of Whiggism. Important guarantees of constitutional liberty were abrogated or suspended. The growth of public opinion, and the increase of wealth and intelligence among the people, formed the chief bulwarks against the increasing influence of the crown, and the augmentation of the peerage and government expenditure. The right of publishing the parliamentary debates, which was only fully established in this reign, imposed an indirect responsibility to the community on the legislature, the force of which was strengthened by the frequency of county and other public meetings, aided by the numerous societies established for political reform and the diffusion of political information. The external pressure was felt and evinced in public acts. Ireland was sought to be conciliated and improved by the mitigation of the penal laws against Catholics, the opening of her foreign trade, and her legislative union with England. The intrigues of faction, and their endless parliamentary conflicts, fell into disrepute. Questions bearing more directly on the common weal—the freedom and advancement of commerce—popular education—fiscal and judicial improvements—mitigation of the criminal law—the growth of indigence and population—monetary fluctuations, and police, obtained a larger share of attention.

The age was intellectual; but George III. did not actively interest himself in its triumphs, further than by the patronage of the elementary teachers of education, of the fine arts, and voyages of geographical discovery. Since the days of cardinal Wolsey, England has not had a prominent Mæcenas among her kings or ministers. Even the national universities, and the public and grammar-schools of the kingdom, continued fettered by usage, by devotion to an exploded philosophy, or by the tenure of their foundations, and did not essentially accelerate the advancement of science. With little aid, however, from these sources, knowledge of a useful kind made an extraordinary progress, stimulated by the wants, or fostered by the increasing riches of the people. The subtleties of metaphysics, whose con-



finer lead nowhere; the niceties of classical scholarship, which savour of pedantry, and the higher order of mathematics, whose uses and reasonings are inapplicable to social life, were less successfully cultivated, and gave way in public estimation to the more available pursuits of chemistry, mechanics, political economy, geology, the medical art, history, and natural and experimental philosophy. It was an age of utility, not morally, but physically in the application of intellect to the substantial requisites of commerce, agriculture, and manufacturing arts.

It was an age of humanity. Of this the abolition of the African Slave Trade, and the efforts made to induce other nations to follow the example, is a noble testimony. The tendency of the national feeling was evinced in the encouragement given to the Bell and Lancaster schemes of popular education; to institutions of charity and benevolence; to efforts to mitigate or extinguish loathsome and destructive infectious maladies, and to better the state of the poor by an indulgent, though not always enlightened philanthropy. The infamous, and often cruel and unequal punishment of the pillory, was abolished; also the barbarous one of burning females for petty treason, and the disembowelling of traitors. Corruption of blood in the descendants of criminals was limited, and the gothic jurisprudence of wager of battle abolished. Another departure from feudal usages consisted in making the real estates of traders dying intestate liable both for their simple and specially contracted debts.

Among the intellectual changes may be noticed the revolution in periodical literature. It declined and revived with some alteration of character. Essay writing on men and manners conferred great national benefits at the beginning of the king's reign; but the field was exhausted by Addison, Johnson, Goldsmith, and Hawkesworth. The public appetite for ethical monitions, with which most people are familiar, but fail in self-denial to practise, abated. The periodical literature that survived was mostly contemptible for political partisanship, venality, subserviency to booksellers, or absence of critical force and discrimination. By the establishment of *The Edinburgh Review*, in 1802, and its followers, a more independent and philosophical spirit was infused into the periodical press. Fanaticism was rebuked; a just and healthy morality inculcated; dreams of human perfectibility exploded; and questions of practical interest, bearing on religious liberty, commercial freedom, the colonies, education, slavery, population, and currency, made generally familiar and interesting. It is to this source the middle and upper ranks owe much of their advance in knowledge and liberality.

The long reign of George III. is dull so far as it was unmarked by the consummation of any great social or political revolution. Still it is eminently instructive from the novelty, number, and vast interest of its occurrences. It is a magnificent era, signalized by the spread of intelligence—increase of national riches—extraordinary scientific discoveries—great internal improvements, and brilliant naval and military triumphs. For the most part of his life the king was popular, attesting that the tenor of his government was in accordance with the national sentiment. On the bright side of the monarch's character may be urged his private worth, piety, humanity, and love of justice; on the dark his selfishness, bigotry, obstinacy, vindictiveness, dissimulation, love of power, and ingratitude. His understanding and regal abilities have been underrated. It is sufficient to say, that he abased the factions, and thoroughly understood his own interest. To his successor he left a splendid inheritance—a crown, in more complete sovereignty—more independent of aristocratic influence—disputed title—favouritism, or other control, than it had been held since the Conquest.

## EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

A.D. 1816. *Jan. 2.* The Jesuits expelled from Petersburg and Moscow by the emperor of Russia.

12. The relatives of Buonaparte banished from France.

18. A general thanksgiving for the peace.

*Feb. 1.* Parliament opened by commission. Mr. Brand moved an amendment to the address, pledging the house to a revision of the civil and military establishments of the country. Negatived by 90 to 23 votes.

9. Mr. Brougham introduced the subject of the Holy Alliance. The production of a copy of the treaty was refused on the ground that England was not a party to it.

11. At a wedding at Michelstown, Ireland, a party met to dance in a barn, when, the fire being too hot, a young man, to extinguish it, threw into the flames a jug full of spirits. Immediately the barn was in a blaze, and, the door being locked, 25 persons were burnt to death, and others greatly injured.

12. A monument erected at Rome, by order of the prince-regent, to the memory of cardinal York, the last of the Stuarts.

17. A man fired a pistol at Miss Kelly from the pit of Drury-lane theatre. He was found to be insane.

*Mar. 19.* Ministers defeated on the property-tax; 238 members voting for its repeal and 201 for its continuance. Chagrined at this defeat, the chancellor of the exchequer relinquished the additional malt-tax of 2,000,000*l.*

20. Captain Tuckey set out to explore the interior of Africa, and major Peddie to trace the source of the Niger.

*April 21.* Sir R. Wilson, Mr. Bruce, and captain Hutchinson tried in Paris for aiding the escape of Lavalette, and sentenced to three months' imprisonment.

23. Sir John Newport moved for an inquiry into the state of Ireland. It was opposed by Mr. Secretary Peel, and negatived after an animated debate.

A fire broke out in the coffee-house over the Stock-exchange. It did considerable damage, by extending to the adjoining counting-houses and buildings.

*May 2.* Princess Charlotte of Wales married at Carlton-house to prince Leopold of Saxe Cobourg: after the ceremony the royal party set off for Oatlands. Prior to the nuptials parliament voted a provision for an establishment of 60,000*l.*; and, in the event of the decease of the princess, 50,000*l.* was settled on the prince during his life.

19. A riot at Brandon on account of the

high price of provisions. In the course of the month there were, from the same cause, serious tumults at Norwich, Newcastle, Ely, and other places, and which were not quelled without the intervention of the military.

*June 15.* The Lyceum opened for the performance of English operas.

18. A special commission opened at Ely to try the rioters: 34 were capitally convicted, and five left for execution.

21. A motion in the lords for the relief of the catholics. It was ably supported by the duke of Sussex and lords Donoughmore and Stanhope: opposed by lords Eldon, Bathurst, and Redesdale. Resolution negatived by 73 peers to 69.

26. The house of a tallow-chandler in Aldersgate-street first robbed, and then set fire to.

*July 2.* Parliament prorogued by the prince-regent.

4. DEATH OF RICHARD WATSON.—The late bishop of Llandaff was in his 79th year, and had long lived retired at his beautiful seat of Colgarth-park, near the lakes of his native county. As a sizar at Cambridge in 1754, he drew attention by his intense studiousness and the rusticity of his dress, which consisted of a coarse mottled Westmoreland coat and blue yarn stockings. Watson became an able chemist and copious writer on theological and political topics. He published an "Apology for Christianity," which needed none, in answer to Gibbon; and an "Apology for the Bible," in reply to Paine. The bishop was liberal in his religion and politics; but after the North and Fox coalition, he felt a contempt for political parties. "Philosophically speaking," says he, "there were neither whiggism nor toryism left: excess of riches and excess of taxes, combined with excess of luxury, had introduced universal selfishism."—(*Anecdotes of Watson's Life, by his Son, p. 194.*) The part which Dr. Watson took on the Regency question is supposed to have damaged him in the estimation of the king, and for which he failed to atone by his subsequent publications on the dangerous tendency of French principles. There seems, however, to have been little ground for the querulousness which marked the latter days of the bishop. His life was not unfortunate: he held valuable college and church preferments, and received a large addition to his income from the bequest of a valuable estate from Mr. Ongar, one of his pupils.

5. DEATH OF MRS. JORDAN.—This once popular actress, whose maiden name was



Bland, died in retirement at St. Cloud. Comedy was Mrs. Jordan's chief walk, but she appeared to almost equal advantage in tragedy, where the tender, rather than the violent and lofty feelings of the mind were to be portrayed. Her recent separation from the duke of Clarence, by whom she had a large family, seems to have been resorted to as preliminary to a more legitimate connexion. She was not in indigence, the prince having made a provision for her maintenance and that of her children, inclusive of three she had had by a former connexion, to the amount of 4400*l.* per annum.

**July 7. DEATH OF MR. SHERIDAN.**—This popular orator, wit, and dramatist, was in his 65th year, and had survived, notwithstanding personal irregularities, the more illustrious of his contemporaries. He was a native of Dublin, but received his chief education at Harrow school, and was intended for the legal profession. His public career may be pronounced to have been prosperous; for, without any special advantage derived from paternity or connexion, or any extraordinary exertion of industry, or self-denial, he rose to be one of the most conspicuous men of his time. The difficulties that clouded the four last years of his life can hardly be termed misfortunes, since they were the natural results of political disagreements with old friends, and inveterate habits of improvidence. Mr. Sheridan's abilities were more the result of observation than of any original fund of intellectual power. His first play (the *Rivals*) and his first speech in the house of commons were not successful; but the failure of these maiden essays became, by the aid of nice discernment and a disposition to improve, the stepping-stones to future triumphs. He was singularly clever—a dexterous and elaborate artist, as his biographer has shewn, of jokes, smart sayings, and dazzling oratory; and there is hardly any excellence of which he was not able to catch the representative save prudential virtues. After the death of Mr. Fox, Sheridan disclaimed allegiance to any whig chieftain apart from Carlton-house. By seniority and talents, if not character, he had himself fair claims to the vacant leadership; and the scruples by which his party lost power, and were kept out of it, were naturally distasteful to a person of his managing aptitude. Except in framing an answer for the prince-regent in apparent rivalry of his colleagues, and keeping back the information of the intended resignation of the Hertfords in the royal household, his fidelity to his party is unimpugned.—(*Moore's Life of Sheridan*, ii. 426.) He was a consistent and disinterested politician, the merit of which is enhanced by the temptations he was under to

be otherwise from his own splendid abilities and embarrassed circumstances. As an orator, he was the most finished and varied of the rhetorical school; and his celebrated speech on the impeachment of Warren Hastings is often referred to as one of the most extraordinary specimens of English eloquence on record. The usually accompanying anecdote, however, does not testify so much to the *utility* as the fascination of this oratorical display; for it is related that the excitement produced was such that the business of the day was necessarily adjourned, and the merits of the speaker, rather than of the case, became the prevailing topic of discussion. The finest speech and the most entertaining, if not the most natural, of English comedies, ought to have guaranteed their celebrated author from the lamentable incidents of his death-bed.

22. The duke of Gloucester married to his cousin, the princess Mary, fourth daughter of the king.

**Aug. 3.** A riot at Glasgow on account of the soup-kitchens. Several persons wounded in skirmishing with the military.

13. A howitzer of uncommon size, left by marshal Soult on his retreat from Cadiz, placed in St. James's park.

25. One of the convicts in Newgate having stolen a watch, the whole of them, to the number of 140, refused to be searched. A riot ensued, but they were reduced to submission by withholding from them their food.

27. **EXPEDITION TO ALGIERS.**—Lord Exmouth with a British and Dutch fleet bombarded Algiers; and the Algerine batteries, shipping, arsenal, and magazine being destroyed, the dey thought fit to submit. Eight hundred lives were lost by the assailants, but the result was decisive. The dey was forced to agree to the total abolition of christian slavery, and to the release of all christian slaves within his dominions.

**Sept. 13.** A party of 13 persons drowned by the upsetting of a boat at Rochester bridge. The accident was occasioned by a piece of timber lying across the starlings of one of the arches.

18. Tumults at Preston by the unemployed.

23. Hon. Augustus Stanhope dismissed the king's service for having enticed lord Beauchamp (a youth only 16 years of age) to play for high stakes at a game of chance, by which the young lord lost large sums, for which he gave his note of hand.

28. Wey and Avon canal opened.

**Oct.** The quarrels among the students at Gottingen occasioned several duels: four students were killed. The number of students at the university has increased to

1152: of these, only 586 are natives of Hanover; 566 are from other German states; and 180 foreigners, Russians, Danes, Swiss, and English.

21. A new silver coinage issued.

22. Disturbances among the workmen employed in the iron-works at Merthyr and Tredegar, owing to a reduction in wages. Upwards of 12,000 assembled, and the military were called in, to quell the rioters.

26. A prize-fighter named Turner found guilty of manslaughter.

Three-fourths of Belvoir castle destroyed by a fire: damages estimated at 120,000*l*.

Nov. 15. A public meeting of distressed mechanics and others to petition for parliamentary reform. Mr. Henry Hunt presided.

Dec. 2. SPA-FIELDS RIOT.—A large number of the populace assembled in Spa-fields to receive the answer of the prince-regent to their petition. While this meeting was waiting the arrival of Mr. Hunt, a band of desperadoes appeared on the ground with a tri-coloured flag and other banners, headed by a young man named Watson, who, after making a violent harangue from a waggon, led the crowd into the city. Stopping at Snow-hill, they attempted to procure arms by plundering the shop of a gunsmith; Watson firing a pistol and wounding a person who remonstrated against the outrageous proceeding. At the Royal-exchange they were met by a strong party of police, headed by lord-mayor Wood, who ordered the gates to be shut, and seized several who had arms. The military and civil power collecting, the rioters dispersed, after plundering some gunsmiths' shops in the Minories. Many were apprehended, and two suffered capital punishment; but the ringleader (Watson), for whom a large reward was offered, succeeded in escaping to America, where he died in 1838.

7. Watch-and-ward act enforced at Nottingham.

9. A petition of an unusual tenor was presented to the prince-regent from the corporation of London. It denied that the distresses which afflicted all classes of the people resulted from a "transition from war to peace: it ascribed them to unjust and ruinous wars, and to a long course of lavish expenditure, arising from the "corrupt and inadequate state of the representation of the people in parliament." This language was extremely inconsistent in the city of London, which for the last thirty years had almost uniformly supported the measures of the court, with little apprehension of the consequences.

15. Died, in his 64th year, Charles, third earl of Stanhope, a nobleman of considerable scientific ingenuity, and an ardent friend of civil and religious liberty. His lordship openly professed republican-

ism, and laid aside the external symbols of nobility. He was the inventor of an arithmetical machine, a printing-press, and monochord.

PATENTS AND DISCOVERIES.—To Mr. Taylor for producing gas-light from vegetable oil.

To Mr. Povey for making gentlemen's coats without seams.

Sir Humphry Davy invented a safety-lamp to prevent accidents from foul air in coal-mines.

The sculptures brought by lord Elgin from Greece were purchased by government for 35,000*l*., and deposited in the British-museum.

A canoe was found under the river Witham in Lincolnshire.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Samuel viscount Hood, 92, a distinguished naval officer. Adam Ferguson, L.L.D., 93, late professor of moral philosophy in the Edinburgh university. Patrick Duigenan, M.P. for Armagh, a warm anti-catholic. Duke of Mecklenburgh Strelitz, brother to queen Charlotte. Richard, viscount Fitzwilliam, of the kingdom of Ireland: his lordship had, at his house at Richmond, one of the most valuable collections of pictures in Europe; more than 10,000 proof prints by the first artists; a very extensive library, and a scarce and curious collection of the best ancient music; among which were the original virginal book of queen Elizabeth, and many of the works of Handel, in the hand-writing of that great composer. He left his pictures to the university of Cambridge, and 100,000*l*. stock to build a gallery to exhibit them. The viscount died unmarried; his brother John succeeded to the title, but a large portion of his estates passed to the earl of Pembroke.

A.D. 1817. RISE OF RADICALISM.—The period which had elapsed since the peace had been marked by the prevalence of general distress among the industrious classes of the community. The triumphs of the war began to be undervalued when it was found that they had entailed burdens almost insupportable. By ministers the public difficulties were ascribed to the sudden transition from war to peace, and hopes were held forth that they would be temporary. Relief was sought by numerous petitions to parliament, but the reception of these only served to show how little sympathy existed between the national representatives and their constituents. Recourse was next had to petitions to the prince-regent. Large meetings were held at Leeds, Manchester, Birmingham, and in the metropolis for this purpose. One remarkable circumstance attending these assemblages was, that they were convened, attended, and conducted almost exclusively by the working classes, the middle and



higher ranks taking no share in their proceedings. In almost all the popular meetings held in 1816-17 men appeared in the garb of poverty, who in fluent and impressive language pointed out the various civil and political evils which in the present reign had produced their altered condition. They enlarged upon the waste of the public money in perpetual wars, in pensions, sinecures, and extravagances of every kind pervading the government; but above all, insisted upon the corrupt dependence of their representatives upon the crown and aristocracy, who, by themselves or by their relatives and dependents, absorbed the money levied on the general industry. The utter hopelessness of any effectual remedy under these circumstances being manifest, the orators urged that a RADICAL REFORM in the commons' house of parliament was essential to the salvation of the country. Such was the popular excitement produced by these harangues, aided by the circulation of cheap political writings, that ministers resorted to the extraordinary measure, in 1817, of a double suspension of the Habeas Corpus-act; first, near the close of February, and afterwards, on a fresh alarm, in the month of June. The majorities by which these measures were carried sufficiently indicated the affright which was spread through the most opulent and the most timorous class of the nation. At the same time the number was not inconsiderable who held firmly to the maintenance of laws regarded as the guarantees of English liberty. The termination of these alarms threw great discredit on the ministry, who, by the employment of spies of abandoned character, aggravated popular discontents, and seduced the ignorant into the commission of crimes which they expiated on the scaffold.

Jan. 20. John Cashman, a sailor, and four others, tried at the Old Bailey for burglariously entering the shop of Mr. Beckwith, a gunsmith, on the day of the Spa-fields riot. Cashman only was found guilty, and executed opposite Beckwith's house.

27. A riot near Leicester. Several corn and hay-stacks set on fire.

28. Parliament opened by the regent, who adverted to the popular discontents, which were ascribed to the efforts of designing persons to mislead the people. An amendment to the address was moved in the lords by earl Grey, but negatived without a division. In the commons, the majority for ministers was 264 to 112 votes. On the return of the regent, he was received with strong marks of popular resentment. On passing Carlton-house the glass of the royal carriage was broken by a stone, and it was not without difficulty he reached the palace.

29. A reward of 1000*l.* offered for the discovery of the perpetrator of the outrage on the regent.

Feb. 3. A royal message, accompanied with documents, informed parliament that combinations existed in the metropolis and in other parts of the kingdom dangerous to public tranquillity. These papers being referred to secret committees in both houses, reports were shortly presented of an alarming tendency. Amongst other matters the committees stated, that very numerous associations were enrolled, under the denomination of "Spencean Philanthropists," whose aim was an equal division of the land, and confiscation of funded property. Whatever impression these reports might have made within the walls of parliament, without they were far from obtaining implicit credence. Of the Spenceans the public had not before heard; and being now officially made acquainted with a sect founded upon the speculations of a visionary, who had written, without being generally read, twenty years before, the revelations of the *green-bag* created more surprise than alarm.

6. Lord Cochrane presented to the house of commons the Spa-fields meeting petition, signed by 24,000 persons. It prayed for annual parliaments, universal suffrage, and reduction in the public expenditure. He also presented a petition from Manchester, signed by 30,000 persons, praying for reform in parliament, and economy in the public expenditure. Sir Francis Burdett presented a petition to parliament, from Leeds, signed by 7000, for the same objects.

7. The regent surrendered 50,000*l.* per annum to the public exigencies. Marquis Camden generously gave up the fees of his tellership of the exchequer, 13,000*l.*, reserving only the salary of 2700*l.* Mr. Ponsonby resigned his pension as late lord chancellor in Ireland.

8. Died at Pisa, in Italy, in his 39th year, FRANCIS HORNER, barrister, a gentleman much respected, who had evinced during his short public life superior abilities. He was brought into parliament by his college friend, lord Henry Petty, and acquired distinction as an able debater, and author of the valuable report, in 1810, of the Bullion Committee. He was one of the earliest and most talented writers in *The Edinburgh Review*.

The subscriptions for the widows and children of the privates who fell at Waterloo amounted to near half a million.

4. The price of Cobbett's Political Register being reduced to twopence, it reached a weekly sale of 50,000 copies.

Mar. 4. Habeas Corpus Suspension Act received the royal assent.

11. Great meeting at Manchester for the avowed purpose of petitioning the regent. It was recommended to the petitioners to proceed in a body to London, and many thousands met, provided with a bundle and a blanket for the journey; but by the activity of the magistrates, aided by the military, the design was frustrated. Johnstone, Ogden, and others, to the amount of 200, were arrested.

15. Mr. Cobbett, the popular political writer, left London for America.

20. The proprietors of Drury-lane theatre agreed to let it on lease. The receipts, since building had been—first year, 79,924*l.*; second, 68,889*l.*; third, 61,585*l.*; fourth, 49,586*l.*

Stage-coaches, on the English plan, set up in France. The first between Paris and Versailles.

*Apr.* 21. Eight persons went on the Lavan sands to gather cockles, when a thick fog coming on they lost their way, and were drowned by the returning tide.

In this month incendiary fires were frequent in the rural districts, chiefly in Essex.

*May* 8. The Belgic bishops presented a memorial to the king, affirming that it is to the Catholic church the world is indebted for universities, which succeeded the episcopal schools; and that it is to "preserve youth from the contagion of philosophical errors that religion has presided over all studies, under the intervention of the bishops."

12. SIDMOUTH'S CIRCULAR.—Lord Sidmouth having addressed a circular letter to the lords-lieutenant of England and Wales, apprising them that the law-officers of the crown had given an opinion, that magistrates possessed the power of holding to bail persons found selling writings which were deemed, though not legally adjudicated, seditious or blasphemous libels, and requesting that they would notify the same to the respective justices within their jurisdiction, earl Grey brought the matter before the house of lords, by moving, "that the case submitted to the law-officers should be laid before the house;" and his lordship indignantly reprobated the principle. It was, however, maintained by the chief-justice Ellenborough, in opposition to lords Erskine and Holland, and the motion was rejected by a very considerable majority. The same subject was brought before the commons by sir Samuel Romilly, and shared the same fate. The circular, however, was not acted upon, being deemed too hazardous an encroachment upon the liberties of the people.

20. Sir F. Burdett moved for a committee to inquire into the state of parliamentary representation. Motion negatived

by 265 to 77 voices. Six hundred petitions were presented this session for parliamentary reform; most of them praying for annual parliaments and universal suffrage. They were got up chiefly by the activity of Major Cartwright, Mr. Cobbett, and sir F. Burdett.

23. The Royal George man-of-war, which sunk off Portsmouth (Aug. 30, 1782), surveyed by means of a diving-bell, and found to be a mass of shapeless timber.

28. The members of a debating society at Cambridge, many of them noblemen, remonstrated against its suppression by the vice-chancellor.

30. Mr. Abbott resigned the speakership of the house of commons, on the ground of ill-health, and was called to the house of lords by the title of lord Colchester: an annuity of 4000*l.* was granted him for his services. Mr. Charles Manners Sutton became the new speaker.

*June* 6. Thomas Jonathan Wooler tried for a libel on ministers; when after a verdict of guilty had been returned, doubts arose as to the validity of the verdict, it being subsequently ascertained that the jury had not been unanimous; upon which the accused applied to the court for an acquittal, and he escaped punishment.

9. The state-prisoners, Watson, Thistlewood, Preston, and Hooper, conveyed from the tower to the court of king's bench, to be tried for high treason. Watson was first tried, and was ably defended by Wetherell and Copley. His trial lasted seven days, and the jury returned a verdict of not guilty. The attorney-general Shepherd then gave up the prosecution against the others. All the accused were in indigent or humble circumstances, and the chief witness against them was Castles, a government spy.

17. Rundell and Bridge were defrauded of jewels to the value of 20,000*l.* by a foreigner, who ordered the articles to be enclosed in a paper box and sealed, which box he contrived to change, and left another, in which, when the seals were broken, only a few halfpence were found. The box containing these valuables was only five inches long, three wide, and two deep; and a communication was subsequently opened with the successful purloiner at Paris.

22. John Kemble took his leave of the stage in a farewell address, written by Mr. Campbell.

29. Pope Pius issued a bull against bible societies, as tending to the circulation by heretics of unauthorized versions of the Scripture.

*July* 2. A Margate steam-packet burnt to the water's-edge; the fire arose from



the furnace. Crew and passengers saved by running the vessel into Whitstable.

5. An issue of a gold coin, called "sovereign," value 20s.

8. Died, of apoplexy, in his 63rd year, George Ponsonby, M.P., formerly chancellor of Ireland, and a leading member of the opposition. Mr. Ponsonby was a plain but argumentative speaker, and of gentlemanly manners.

12. Parliament prorogued by the regent.

15. Died at Paris, aged 53, Madame de Staël, daughter of the celebrated Necker, and herself a lady much distinguished in the literary world. She married baron de Staël, the Swedish ambassador, and left a son and daughter; the latter married to the duke de Broglie.

23. The strenuous efforts of the emperor Alexander to erect universities and schools in different parts of the Russian empire appear to have been successful.

29. A number of persons imprisoned in Edinburgh, under a charge of treason, liberated, after receiving 7s. each to carry them home.

30. Lord Amherst arrived at Spithead from his embassy to the court of Peking, after an absence from England of seventeen months. He was foiled in the object of his mission chiefly from refusing to conform to the Chinese ceremonial of prostration before his "celestial" majesty.

Aug. 2. New custom-house, in Thames-street, finished: the architect, David Laing, esq.

5. Roger O'Connor, esq. acquitted at Meath assizes of a charge of conspiracy to rob the public mail. Sir F. Burdett bore strong testimony to the honour and integrity of Mr. O'Connor.

7. A new criminal code, and an act for the abolition of paper money for less sums than 20s., proclaimed on Tynwald-hill, according to ancient usage, in the isle of Man.

Sept. 17. Three of the maid-servants of sir John Thomas Stanley went to bathe, as usual, his youngest daughter, when they stripped to bathe, and the four were found drowned. It is the third accident of the kind we have met in the occurrences of the present reign (*vide pp. 622 and 657*).

Typhus fever prevalent in Ireland.

The Old Bailey calendar contained 476 prisoners for trial; 45 more than ever known.

23. A treaty signed at Madrid between their Britannic and Catholic majesties, by which England stipulated to pay 400,000*l.* to Spain for the losses she sustained by the abolition of the traffic in negro slaves.

24. An unsuccessful attempt was made at the English Opera-house to divide the entertainments of the night into two dis-

tinct performances, the first performance to begin at six and continue till nine, and the second to begin at half-past nine and continue till twelve.

Oct. 15. A special commission opened at Derby for the trial of the persons implicated in the tumults of the northern counties. Bills of indictment had been found against 40, but only four were convicted of treason, Brandreth, Turner, Ludlow, and Weightman, the last not executed. During the trials it appeared an informer, named Oliver, had been active in inciting to treason, to reap the reward of discovery.

18. Being the anniversary of the battle of Leipsic, it was celebrated with great rejoicings by the northern cities of Germany, as the era of their emancipation from the French yoke. At Wartburg 500 students assembled, most of whom took the sacrament of the holy supper.

Nov. 6. Died, in the 22nd year of her age, after giving birth to a still-born child, the princess Charlotte, daughter of the regent, and consort of prince Cobourg. The sudden demise of this accomplished and high-spirited princess caused general and intense regret,—“the expectancy and rose of the fair state” having untimely perished. The remains of her royal highness were deposited in the regal vaults of Windsor on the 18th; prince Leopold chief mourner.

WAGER OF BATTLE.—William Ashford appealed Abraham Thornton, who had been acquitted at the Warwick assizes, under circumstances of strong suspicion, of the murder of his sister, Mary Ashford. The writ of appeal was awarded, and Thornton appeared in the court of king's bench, and offered, according to ancient custom, his wager of battle, which the judges decided he was entitled to: but Ashford being only a boy, the challenge was declined, and Thornton discharged. It gave rise to an act of parliament (59 Geo. III., c. 40), that abolished the right of appeal, as a remnant of Gothic jurisprudence.

Strathfieldsaye, a mansion and estate of lord Rivers, was purchased for the duke of Wellington, for 263,000*l.*

9. The usual festivities and procession on lord Mayor's day dispensed with, in consequence of the lamented death of the princess Charlotte of Wales.

14. Died at Brompton, in his 67th year, JOHN PHILPOT CURRAN, the celebrated Irish advocate. Mr. Curran obtained a pension of 3000*l.* a-year on resigning the mastership of the rolls in Ireland, in 1814; since which he had lived in England. His talents were more shining than solid: he possessed much wit, drollery, pathos, and a bold and fanciful oratory.

28. British subjects prohibited by proclamation from serving on either side in the pending dispute between Spanish America and the mother country.

*Dec. 2.* Mr. Munro, who had succeeded Mr. Madison in the presidentship, in his message to congress, recommended the abolition of all internal taxes, as not requisite for the public service.

18. TRIALS OF WILLIAM HONE.—This person having in the course of his trade published some parodies, for the purpose of ridiculing the members of government, was arraigned upon a criminal information, filed by the attorney-general, in the court of king's bench, as a profane libeller of parts of the liturgy. He underwent three trials, on three successive days, before different juries, and two different judges; Mr. Justice Abbott presiding the first day, and lord Ellenborough the other two. Mr. Hone conducted his own defence, with unexpected energy and ability, and each day came off victor, to the great joy of the public, who looked upon the prosecution as a violent effort of power to fetter the press and crush the accused. The obstinacy of the chief justice in trying the defendant on the third and least noxious of his publications, after he had been acquitted by two special juries, was generally censured. A public subscription, which amounted to 3000*l.*; was raised for the defendant in return for his well-timed exertions.

A young swindler, who represented himself as possessed of immense wealth, was so successful in his depredations on credulous tradespeople, that he acquired the name of the "fortunate youth."

REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENTS.—In the course of this year the representative system established in Sicily, under the sanction of England, was found unsuitable to the people, and abolished. In Prussia and other German states, there was a general desire for representative governments, which created considerable popular agitation. The constitution offered by the king of Wirtemberg to his people was rejected as inadequate to their wants; and the assembly of the states was in consequence dissolved. The court of Saxe Weimar had long been distinguished as one of the most polished and enlightened in Germany, and the reigning duke not only granted to his subjects a free constitution, but made a voluntary proposal to the diet at Frankfort, that the constitution should be placed under the guarantee of the Germanic confederation.

EAST INDIES.—The judicious administration of the marquis of Hastings strengthened the British power in the East Indies. Holkar was defeated at Mehdupore, by sir Thomas Hislop, and peace concluded with

the Mahrattas. The roving and predatory bands of Pindarries were successively brought to submission, and many of them to habits of peace.

THE WEATHER.—The mean height of the thermometer this year, in the neighbourhood of London, was 48.26; in the month of June it was highest, averaging 86. Rain 24.09 inches. The average of rain for the previous 40 years was 20.635 inches.

Thirty-seven coaches ran this summer, every day, from London to Brighton.

The magnetic needle, which had for many years taken a western declination from the meridian, returned towards the north.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Sir William Innes, 100, a volunteer at the battle of Dettingen. Rev. William Belasco, 60, translator of Herodotus, and co-proprietor, with Mr. Nares, of "The British Critic." William Saunders, M.D., 74, a copious medical writer. At Dresden, Werner, the celebrated mineralogist. Richard Lovell Edgeworth, 74, a writer of some eminence, and father of the celebrated Maria Edgeworth. David La-touche, 88, an eminent banker of Dublin, and 40 years member of the Irish parliament. Hon. Henry Erskine, brother of lord Erskine: Mr. Erskine was long the leader of the Scotch bar, and celebrated for his conversational powers. At Windsor, John Andre de Luc, 91, a celebrated geological writer.

A.D. 1818. FORGERIES ON THE BANK OF ENGLAND.—During the first two years of the peace the forgeries on the bank of England almost doubled; and in 1817 the quantity of paper presented to the bank, which was rejected as forged, and the loss thrown on the holders, amounted to 37,180*l.* The forgeries were chiefly of the *one-pound notes*, those of a higher denomination circulating under greater precautions, seldom counterfeited. The increase of forgery was contemporary with the bank stoppage in 1797, when the small notes first began to be issued. In the eight years preceding the suspension of cash-payments, there was not a single prosecution for forgery; but in the eight which followed the restriction act there were 146 capital convictions for that offence. In the year 1817 there were 32 capital convictions for forgery, and 95 for having forged notes in possession, which last subjected only to transportation. From 1805 to 1818 the number of persons executed for forgery in England and Wales, was 207; for murder 202; for burglary 199; for robbery from the person 188. Of the number 207 for forgery, no fewer than 76 were the victims of bank prosecutions. So that almost as many lives had been sacri-



ficed to protect the inviolability of the paper of this monetary corporation as to protect the person from the highest crime, or property from the most violent depredation. A strong public feeling was in consequence excited in 1818-19 against the numerous prosecutions of the bank, especially when it was found that its multiplied punishments had not succeeded in lessening the number of offences. This feeling was heightened when it was discovered, during the trials at the Old Bailey, that the forgery of bank notes was a matter of easy accomplishment; that it was impossible for the public to distinguish between true and false notes; that the bank servants were often unable to distinguish genuine from forged paper, and that unknowingly they had often refused the payment of good notes. These facts were established by the returns made by the bank to parliament, and in consequence of which juries refused to convict on the evidence of its inspectors and clerks, unless they would discover the private marks by which they discriminated forged from genuine paper. This placed the bank in the dilemma of either abandoning prosecutions, or of giving publicity to their own safeguard, by which its utility would be destroyed. Attempts were made to improve the workmanship of their notes, so that they could not be imitated; but if the idea of fabricating an inimitable note is not chimerical, it was certainly chimerical to think of producing a note for general circulation that could not be imitated correctly enough to elude the ordinary vigilance of individuals. The only effective preventive of the evil was that subsequently adopted, namely, of withdrawing the notes of less amount than 5*l.* from circulation. This was a principal reason for the passing, in 1819, Mr. Peel's Act for the resumption of payments in specie by the bank in 1823,—a period, however, which was anticipated; for the directors, having accumulated a large quantity of gold, they began specie payments May 1st, 1821.

1818. *Jan. 1.* Tri-centenary of the Protestant Reformation celebrated at the London tavern by 1500 persons.

3. The streets of the metropolis were filled with unemployed sailors almost in a state of nudity, and a subscription was raised for their relief.

27. Parliament opened by commission. The addresses passed without opposition in both houses.

28. Habeas Corpus-act restored, and a bill of indemnity passed to screen ministers and others from the legal penalties they might have incurred by the abuse of the power of arbitrary imprisonment, with which they had been temporarily invested.

*Feb. 5.* By virtue of a royal commission

granted to Mr. Walter Scott and others, the crown-room and chest at Edinburgh were opened. The dust of upwards of a century lay on the floor, and was six inches thick. In the chest the regalia of Scotland was found, consisting of the crown, sword of state, and sceptre. The sword was a present to James IV. from pope Julius.

7. A meeting at the Freemasons'-tavern to raise a fund for building additional churches in the metropolis; the archbishop of Canterbury in the chair, supported by nearly the whole bench of bishops and 25 lay peers.

14. Charles XIII. of Sweden died. He was succeeded by the crown-prince, formerly marshal Bernadotte, and the only one of Buonaparte's generals that retained his exalted station.

Sir Richard Croft, the eminent accoucheur who attended the late princess Charlotte, destroyed himself by a pistol at the house of the Rev. Dr. Thackeray, where he was in attendance on Mrs. Thackeray, who was confined. It appeared, from a coroner's inquest, that since the unfortunate result of the accouchment of the princess he had evinced timidity in his profession, and suffered from a depression of spirits that had produced mental derangement.

17. The emperor Alexander fixed the meeting of the Polish diet, and announced that he had given a constitution to Poland to secure to her the benefits of national representation.

*Apr. 1.* The Prussian government contracted with N. M. Rothschild in London for a loan of 5,000,000*l.*, to be raised by ten monthly instalments.

8. Lord Palmerston, the secretary at war, fired at by lieutenant Davis, and slightly wounded. Davis was actuated by some supposed injury, but was found to be insane.

13. ROYAL MARRIAGES.—The death of the princess Charlotte occasioned several of the junior branches of the royal family to form matrimonial alliances; and a message was brought to parliament on the 13th, announcing the contemplated nuptials of the dukes of Clarence and Cambridge with the princesses of Saxe-Meiningen and Hesse-Cassel; that of the duke of Kent with the sister of prince Leopold, the dowager princess of Saxe-Leiningen. Additional allowances of 6000*l.* were voted to the princes; but upon a motion to make a similar addition to the income of the duke of Cumberland, it was negatived by 143 to 136 members. In the course of the month the princess Elizabeth, third daughter of the king, espoused the hereditary prince of Hesse-Homberg; but the occurrence occasioned no application to parliament.

15. Remains of a Roman villa discovered in the duke of Marlborough's estate at Stonesfield near Oxford.

25. The foundation-stone of an observatory laid at Edinburgh by the Astronomical Institution.

May 9. A pedestrian named Crisp finished his extraordinary task of walking 61 miles each day for 17 successive days.

19. Sir Robert Heron's motion for the repeal of the septennial act negatived by 117 to 42 members. It was supported by Mr. Brougham and sir Samuel Romilly. Strangers were not permitted to be present during the debate.

27. Several persons convicted by the excise of selling ground beans and peas for coffee.

28. A new constitution published for Bavaria, establishing Representative Assemblies. The preamble is remarkable for liberality, granting to the people freedom of opinion, with restrictions against abuse; an equal right in all to public offices and distinctions due to merit; equal laws, and equality before the law; equality of imposts; and, as security to the whole, States-general formed from all classes of domiciled citizens.—(*Ann. Reg.*, lx. 76.) The constitution gave general satisfaction to the Bavarians.

June 3. Sir F. Burdett, after presenting 90 petitions to the house of commons praying for parliamentary reform, moved resolutions for annual parliaments and universal suffrage, which were seconded by lord Cochrane: when the house divided, 100 to 2, the mover and seconder.

10. Parliamentary session terminated by a speech from the prince-regent, congratulating the two houses "on the manifest improvement in the internal circumstances of the country, and the growing indications of national prosperity." The lord-chancellor then declared that it was the pleasure of the prince that the parliament be now dissolved. Proroguing and dissolving parliament at the same time was deemed ungracious (*Life of Wilberforce*, iv. 382), and it was the first time it had been done since the reign of Charles II.

Imprisonment for debt abolished in the state of New York.

18. GENERAL ELECTION.—Except in the metropolis, the elections passed over quietly, and produced no change in the parliamentary majority of ministers. In the city of London, after a sharp contest, the ministerial candidate, sir William Curtis, was thrown out, and Messrs. Wood, Wilson, Waithman, and Thorpe elected. In the city of Westminster there was some disturbance. The populace made a violent attack on the court candidate, sir Murray Maxwell, and the guards were called in, to aid the civil power. The election termi-

nated as follows, a whig and radical being returned:—Sir Samuel Romilly, 5339; sir F. Burdett, 5238; sir M. Maxwell, 4808; Henry Hunt, 84.

21. By a convention with Austria, Prussia, Russia, and Britain, France agreed to pay 14,000,000 francs, annuities, for liquidating the debts due by France to individuals on the Continent, and 3,000,000 to satisfy the claims of British subjects.

30. Mr. Merceron, who was tried May 16th, and had been 25 years a magistrate of Middlesex, was sentenced to fine and imprisonment for embezzling parish money, and licensing publicans not legally qualified.

July 2. Intelligence received of the loss of the *Cabalva* East Indiaman; ship and cargo valued at 350,000*l.*: and most of this value belonged to the East India Company, who never insure.

16. Prussia, having acquired several fine provinces on the Rhine, is occupied in strengthening the fortifications of Wesel, Cologne, and Coblenz. The famous fort of Ehrenbreitstein is to be completely repaired.

31. Charles Hussey convicted at Maidstone of the murder of Mr. Bird and his housekeeper at Greenwich. After confessing his crime, he was executed on Penenden-heath.

Aug. 12. The king of Saxony abolished the ancient usage, by which Jews, who frequented the fair at Leipsic, were restricted to a particular part of the town in the exposure of their commodities for sale.

15. The contest between the cotton-spinners of Manchester and their employers kept up with great bitterness. In a statement put forth by the former, they say that their object is only to raise wages to the average of 24*s.* a-week, which they were prior to the reduction consequent on the stagnation of trade in 1816–17. Their ordinary hours of labour they state to be from five in the morning to seven in the evening, in rooms heated from 70 to 90 degrees.

Miss Mary Ann Tucker was acquitted, at the Cornwall assizes, of a libel, inserted in the *West Briton* newspaper, on the vice-warden of the Stannary-court. The novelty of the case was a clever defence made by the defendant in person.

Sept. 3. The weather changed, after 108 hot and clear days. During the three months of June, July, and August, the thermometer at London, at the highest, averaged 90°. At Paris it rose to 98°. In many parts of England the trees blossomed twice.

7. A public meeting in the Palace-yard to petition the prince-regent for annual parliaments, universal suffrage, and vote by ballot. Mr. Hunt, who presided, proposed that they should present it in a body at the Home-office, where it was received by



an officer. But lord Sidmouth refused to lay it before the regent on the ground that in the petition it was set forth to be that of the inhabitants of the metropolis, which was notoriously untrue, there not being 500 persons at the meeting.

11. Vassalage abolished in Courland by the emperor of Russia; and, with the concurrence of the nobility, 4,000,000 peasants were thereby elevated to the rank of freemen.

15. In the south of Ireland one-fifth of the population supposed to be afflicted with the epidemic fever. During the last twelve months 14,060 persons were admitted into the fever hospitals in Dublin.

29. Congress of the allied sovereigns assembled at Aix-la-Chapelle.

30. An accidental explosion of gunpowder at Nottingham, by which several buildings were blown down, and eleven persons lost their lives. Such was the power of the explosion that a large portion of stone pavement was forced six or seven feet into the solid earth.

*Oct. 1.* At the university of Moscow almost all the public courses have recommenced, and it is remarked that the disasters of that city have had a favourable influence on the state of the sciences. The gymnasium has been opened anew, and perfected in several points. The nobility and the opulent, following the example of the emperor, patronise by donations the schools of popular instruction in this country.

31. A small issue of crown-pieces completed the series of the new silver coinage.

*Nov. 2.* SUICIDE OF SIR S. ROMILLY.—This eminent lawyer was in his 62nd year, and had attained the foremost rank at the chancery bar by his logical and forcible eloquence. His professional gains averaged 14,000*l.* per annum. He was a whig, and filled the office of solicitor-general while that party was in power in 1806. Sir Samuel had taken the lead in the reform and mitigation of the criminal law, upon which he published an able pamphlet. A nervous disorder, produced by the death of his lady, and over-exertion in his profession, which allowed neither of recreation nor domestic comfort, were the alleged causes of his suicide. Even the Sunday was not a day of rest, but often spent in legal consultations;—a practice which Mr. Wilberforce (*Life*, v. 134) in vain tried to prevail on sir Samuel to relinquish.

4. Mr. justice Abbott appointed chief-justice of the court of King's-bench; vice lord Ellenborough, resigned. Next day Mr. justice Dallas was appointed chief-justice of the Common-pleas; vice sir Vicary Gibbs, resigned.

6. Two respectable farmers, tenants at Heckley-grange, near Alnwick, having

lived together in the greatest harmony from childhood, voluntarily terminated, at the same moment, their existence. They were brothers, one 70, the other 60 years of age.

10. Captain Ross and lieutenant Parry returned from their voyage of discovery, after a fruitless effort to find a north-west passage to Asia.

15. The ministers of England, France, Russia, Austria, and Prussia, assembled at Aix-la-Chapelle, issued a declaration, expository of their principles, and of their determination to maintain the existing state of Europe. "Henceforth," they say, "they shall devote all their efforts to the protection of the arts of peace, to the increase of the internal prosperity of their states, and to the awakening of those sentiments of religion and morality, whose empire has been too much enfeebled by the misfortunes of the times." The composition of this document is ascribed to M. Gentz, secretary to the congress.

Pending the congress the English boxers Gregson, Cooper, and Carter, exhibited in the great hall at Aix-la-Chapelle before prince Metternich, prince Charles of Prussia, the prince de Salms, and a number of other foreigners of distinction, who repeatedly cheered the onsets between these fistie heroes.

17. DEATH OF QUEEN CHARLOTTE.—Her majesty was in the 75th year of her age and the 58th of her marriage with the king. Avarice, and the exertion of a political influence on the unpopular side, were imputed to the queen; but the first imputation is hardly reconcilable with the fact that she expended upwards of 5000*l.* annually in works of benevolence. She was diminutive and very plain in person; obstinate, unforgetting, and contracted in mind; and had all the pride, along with the meanness, of German aristocracy. In the careful management of a large family and in her attentions to the king she had been exemplary, but her general manners were offensive, from prudery and dulness. Mrs. Trimmer, Mrs. Hannah More, Madame d'Arblay, Charlotte Helen Maria Williams, and other female authors, whose writings were directed to moral and religious improvement, received some marks of her favour.

*Dec. 5.* Two juries at the Old Bailey, one of the Middlesex, and the other of London, acquitted the persons tried before them on the capital charge of passing forged notes, because the clerk of the bank would not explain the marks by which he believed the notes to be forged.

11. DEATH OF LORD ELLENBOROUGH.—The late chief justice of England was one of four brothers, two of whom attained the episcopal dignity, and his father, Dr. Edmund Law, was bishop of Carlisle, an ami-

able but latitudinarian prelate. The future judge was early located in the South, first on the foundation of the Charter-house, and next at Cambridge; but the Northumbrian burr—the rattling *r*, which indicated the hyperborean scholar—always stuck to him. Young Law's success in life could never have been dubious. Intellectually strong, ambitious, resolute, and industrious, instructed by the companionship of Dr. Paley, and assisted by the patronage of Mr. Justice Buller, and of a good family connexion, he was not likely to experience much delay or difficulty in his legal career. Almost his first and most successful suit was the marrying of a beautiful woman of large fortune, and the descendant, by the mother's side, of a great lawyer, sir Thomas More. He was entrusted with the conduct of the defence in the great cause of Warren Hastings: it had been offered to Erskine, who declined it, owing to his connexion with the whigs, who were the leading impeachers. His professional studies enabled him to make a firm stand against the formidable but unlearned triumvirate of Burke, Fox, and Sheridan: it was *law* against eloquence; and, with the tribunal he addressed, logic and special pleading told more effectively than oriental metaphors. The trial terminated, as is well known, in the acquittal of the accused ex-governor, leaving his able defender in possession of the solid advantages of a large *honorarium*, and high legal reputation. By the dissolution of the Pitt ministry in 1801, Mr. Law became attorney-general, and ten months after, by the death of lord Kenyon, chief-justice of England and baron Ellenborough. The honours were now won; they required only to be worn with dignity and moderation. Pending the Grenville ministry, in 1806, his lordship, after the example of Mansfield, accepted a seat in the cabinet:—a solitary precedent, more honoured in the breach than observance; and from which, the inconveniences resulting from the union of political and judicial functions in the lord chancellor, ought to have deterred a constitutional administration from following. Lord Ellenborough subsequently concurred in its inexperience, and we have the authority of his son for saying (*House of Lords, July 7th, 1837, Parl. Debs. xxxviii. 1842*), that “if it were to do again he would not do it.” Though a sort of whig in principle, lord Ellenborough was practically a conservative: he was anti-catholic; he originated no legal reforms, (unless the act bearing his name be one,) and watched with jealousy, and often stifled with asperity those of others. Even the mild attempts of sir Samuel Romilly were fiercely met by the chief-justice, who declaimed against “speculative humanity,” when

prisoners might be pressed to death for standing mute—when women might be flogged, to the outrage of female delicacy, and burnt to death in due form of law—when traitors were drawn, hung, quartered, and disembowelled—when criminals were slain by the capricious fury of the mob in the pillory—when flagrant, but merciful perjury was in constant practice by jurymen—when the twelve judges might be called into the open air to try a wager of battle; and, reluctantly, and in solemn mockery of justice, pronounced sentences of death never meant to be executed. (*Law Magazine, xi. 342.*) Under the impulse of a better spirit and intelligence, these enormities have been removed from the statute-book. In his judicial capacity lord Ellenborough was remarkable for force of language and of reasoning; his integrity and independence were unquestioned; but he laboured under the deep reproach of being an *angry judge*. Carried away by the violence of his temper, he shot beyond the bounds of legal decorum and even of justice; for in lieu of being the counsel of the accused, he became the open advocate of the prosecutor. His judgments were sometimes cruel and unsuitable, as that which sentenced lord Cochrane to the pillory. The overbearing demeanour of the judge in political trials did not pass unreprieved, either in the senate or in his own court; but his irascibility increased with age, and on the trial of Mr. Hone it blazed out furiously. He failed, however, to extort a conviction of “the poor bookseller,” and he only survived this mortifying discomfiture about a twelvemonth, dying in his 68th year. His health had long been declining through the pressure of anxious and toilsome duties, to which he stuck with iron inflexibility. A large family survived him—one a natural daughter, whom he kindly remembered in his will. Leaving a fortune of 320,000*l.*, he was able to make a munificent provision for his descendants. He flourished, and was almost the last chief-justice that did so, in the age of rich legal sinecures, when offices in courts of justice, worth 80,000*l.*, were openly saleable.

17. Mr. Hobhouse nominated M. P. for Westminster, in lieu of the late sir S. Romilly.

31. A riot at Edinburgh during the execution of a man for robbery: he was cut down by the mob, but the police being reinforced by the military, he was again suspended, and the hanging completed.

EVACUATION OF FRANCE.—The most important circumstance of the present year was the entire liberation of the territory of France from the chains under which it had been held by the occupation of a large part of its domains by the great



powers who had taken possession of it. By the second treaty of Paris, the stay of the occupying army was not to exceed five years; but in the present month, the allied sovereigns, having completed three years, during which France had been considered as in foreign possession, they entered into a resolution, at Aix-la-Chapelle, of withdrawing their respective forces from the common territory, and leaving it entirely free and independent.

MISCELLANIES.—Houses began to be heated by steam.

It appears, in London, that there are 532 painters, 45 sculptors, 149 architects, 2060 engravers in stroke, mezzotinto, aquatinta, and wood.

The kaleidoscope invented by Dr. Brewster.

The Himala mountains discovered to be the highest in the world: 19 of them higher than Chimboracco, in Peru.

Three systems of education in this year claimed public attention: that of mutual instruction propagated by Dr. Bell and Mr. Lancaster; the interrogative system of questions without answers; and that of M. Pestalozzi by oral questions.

The British and Foreign Bible Society distributed between March 31, of 1817 and 1818, bibles 89,795, and testaments 104,306.

Belzoni transported from Egypt to England the statue of Memnon.

It appeared by the report of the house of commons, that four millions of pounds' weight of sloe, liquorish, and ash-tree leaves, are every year mixed with Chinese teas in England.

A parliamentary report exposes abuses in sales by auction, reprobating them as affording encouragement to the manufacture of inferior articles, and exciting a competition for lowness of price in preference to excellence of quality, whereby the honest tradesmen and best workmen are injured.

Another report recommended the repeal of the usury laws, as futile and mischievous.

A patent obtained for improvement in printing-presses to work by steam, and for rollers for distributing ink for the types.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Thomas Cogan, M.D., 82, moral and medical writer. Sir Richard Musgrave, author of the "Irish Rebellions." George Dempster, esq., 86, a Scotch advocate, many years member of the house of commons: he was the first who taught his countrymen the art of packing salmon in ice, by which means it may be sent to a good market in the British metropolis. Prince of Condé, 82, one of the leading emigrants in 1789. Patrick Brydone, author of "A Tour in Sicily." Earl of Kerry, 78: his lordship had no

issue, and was succeeded in his honours by his cousin and heir-male, the marquis of Lansdowne. Mrs. Pope, 75, actress. John Palmer, esq., late comptroller of the post-office: he introduced an entire change in the mode of conveying the post, in defiance of an interested opposition, and was rewarded by a public grant of 50,000*l*. Warren Hastings, esq., 86, formerly governor-general of India, and celebrated for the seven years' impeachment of the eloquent triumvirs Burke, Fox, and Sheridan. At his house, in St. James's-square, sir Philip Francis, 78, the supposed and probable author of the "Letters of Junius." Sir Philip spent several years in India, and subsequently took an active part in Indian affairs in the house of commons. When upwards of 70 he married the daughter of a clergyman; but though the disparity of years was great, his motive was companionship, which object he accomplished to the utmost gratification of his hopes.

A.D. 1819. STATE OF THE COUNTRY.—The internal condition of the country this year was one of painful interest. Pecuniary distress was nearly universal: the agricultural, commercial, and manufacturing interests laboured under unusual depression and embarrassment. That portion of the people engaged in the labours of husbandry, little susceptible, from their dispersed habitation and rusticity, of political excitement, endured the evils of their lot without audible murmurs, or any expression of hostility against the established order of society, or the conduct of government. In some manufacturing districts, also, severe distress was sustained with mute resignation; in others the case was widely different. The government and the higher classes became alarmed. The prince-regent issued a proclamation against seditious meetings; and soon after a vast assemblage of reformers at Manchester were savagely dispersed by military force. This act of violence was followed up on the part of government by severe measures against the press and seditious meetings; which had the effect of checking popular agitation without eradicating the inherent causes of discontent. Population was felt to be redundant in the existing depression of industry, and encouragement was given to emigration. In the first session of the year a parliamentary grant of 50,000*l*. was voted for the purpose of establishing settlers on the eastern border of the Cape of Good Hope. Public attention was directed to New South Wales, as opening a boundless region for the profitable employment of surplus labour and capital. The poor-laws, with the influence exerted by them on the moral and physical condition of the people; the state of the prisons

and of prison discipline; and the state and actual operation of that portion of the criminal laws under which capital punishment was denounced, became the subjects of able and laborious parliamentary investigation. Political economy, statistics, and the principles of legislation, which had hitherto had little regard even from rulers, were now forced on the attention of all classes, from the light they shed on their mutual interests, rights, and social relations.

*Jan. 8.* The will of the late queen Charlotte proved in Doctors' Commons, by the executors, lord Arden and general Taylor; the personal property sworn under 140,000*l.* The jewels presented to her late majesty by the nabob of Arcot were bequeathed as an heir-loom to the house of Hanover, and the queen's real estate at New Windsor to the princess Sophia.

13. Several of the disciples of the late Johanna Southcott appeared at Guildhall, to answer the charge of creating a riot in the streets. It seems they had paraded the city, decorated with a white cockade and star on the left breast, proclaiming with a brazen trumpet and stentorian voice the coming of the promised Shiloh. A mob collected and a battle ensued. Before the magistrate they maintained the verity of their mission, and that it was right they should obey God rather than man. After a suitable admonition on the lamentable character of their delusion, they were detained in custody till they could find security to keep the peace.

14. Parliament opened by commission, and Mr. Manners Sutton a second time chosen speaker. The royal speech was read on the 21st, and congratulated parliament on the evacuation of France, and the improvement of the revenue. The address in both houses passed without a division.

20. Died at Rome, Charles IV., ex-king of Spain, in the 71st year of his age, having survived his consort only a fortnight.

25. In consequence of the queen's death a bill was introduced, which passed into a law, for vesting the custody of the king's person in the duke of York, with an allowance of 10,000*l.* per annum. The pecuniary grant was strenuously opposed, but defended on the ground of the pecuniary embarrassments of the prince.

Petitions were presented from the common-council of London, and from the quakers, for a revival of the criminal law.

A circular issued from the home-office, specifying the conditions on which persons would be permitted to emigrate to the Cape of Good Hope. On a deposit of 10*l.* for each head of a family, government undertook to provide a passage and grant an

allotment of land, to the extent of 100 acres.

*Feb. 1.* An experiment at Portsmouth to make ropes of grass, of a strong and pliable texture, grown in the island of New Zealand. The result was promising.

16. The trade of Hamburg remarked to have undergone three revolutions. The prosperity of the city originally depended on its breweries; its beer is now the worst and least known in Germany. Ten years ago sugar-refiners flourished, and its sugar was exported even to countries which had sugar-refiners of their own. These have declined from the rivalry of other nations, and the trade of insurance has now taken the lead. Hamburg has twenty native insurance companies, each with a capital of from 450,000 to 1,500,000 marks banco, exclusive of private insurers.

*Mar. 2.* Sir James Macintosh made a motion for the appointment of a committee on capital punishments: it was carried, in opposition to ministers, by 148 to 128.

3. The Westminster election, to fill the seat of sir S. Romilly, terminated, after a sharp contest between the whig, radical, and ultra-radical candidate. The first was returned and the last at the bottom of the poll: the numbers being, G. Lamb, 4465; J. C. Hobhouse, 3861; major Cartwright, 38.

Kotzebue, the celebrated German dramatist, assassinated at Manheim, by a student of Jena, named Sandt, on the ground of his being a spy in the pay of Russia, and an enemy to the liberties of Germany.

18. Sir Manasseh Lopez convicted at Exeter assizes of bribing the electors of the borough of Grampound, and sentenced in the November following to two years' imprisonment and a fine of 10,000*l.*

20. Burlington arcade opened.

24. Southwark bridge opened, making the sixth metropolitan bridge over the Thames.

A new machine appeared in London, for aiding pedestrians, called a "velocipede," consisting of two wheels, one before the other, connected with a perch, on which the rider rests his body, while with his feet he urges the machine forward. The use of it, if any, was limited to corpulent people, and, after the novelty ceased, it was discontinued.

*Apr. 14.* A court of honour established in Bavaria, to prevent duelling.

20. A gang of swindlers, named Levy, Woolf, Kinnear, and Meyer, who had succeeded in obtaining goods to the amount of 50,000*l.*, were convicted of a conspiracy, fined, and imprisoned.

27. The Leeds newspapers notice the



serious decrease in one year of upwards of 240,000 pieces of woollen cloth in the manufacture of the west riding of Yorkshire.

May 3. Petitions from the catholics of England and Ireland, from the protestants of Dublin, in favour of their claims, and the corporation of the same place against them, being presented to parliament in the course of the session, Mr. Grattan moved for a committee to take into consideration the laws which affected the catholics, in which he was ably seconded by lord Normanby. After an animated debate the motion was lost by two votes only, the numbers being 241 to 243. The same question was similarly determined in the lords, but with a majority of 147 to 106.

5. The Americans are fitting out, for the first time, an expedition to sail round the world.

10. The Pargiotes left their city, rather than submit to the rule of the Turks, to whom they were abandoned in virtue of an agreement concluded with Ali Pacha by sir Thomas Maitland, governor of Corfu, in breach of the good faith under which the Pargiotes had submitted, in 1814, to the protection of the British government. Only 40 inhabitants were found in Parga when taken possession of by the Turks. The exiles were conveyed first to Corfu, and subsequently to a barren island, called Meganisi.

11. Marquis Camden, having nobly relinquished to the public, as before noticed, the fees of his patent office of a tellership of the exchequer, a bill was introduced to legalize the patriotic donation, doubts having been started whether it was not of the nature of a *benevolence* unwarranted by law.

13. A bill introduced, which became law, to prevent enlistment, and the equipment of vessels for foreign service. Its real object was to prevent British subjects lending their aid to the South American colonies in their struggle with Spain: it was unpopular both in and out of parliament, but was passed into a law by the ministerial majority.

24. Princess Victoria, daughter of the duke and duchess of Kent, born at Kensington palace.

The plan of mutual instruction, adopted in England and at Paris, has been successfully introduced into the Russian army. The progress the soldiers make is astonishing, especially the Cossacks.

28. The plague at Tunis has carried off half the inhabitants.

June 2. The number of new works published at Leipsic fair amounts to 3000, and comprises all works that have been printed in Germany since Michaelmas, and that

are to be published before Midsummer. Medicine and surgery furnish the greatest number of works, amounting to 73 in that department.

7. A large armament, that had long been fitting out at Cadiz to recover possession of Spanish America, is frustrated by a mutiny of the troops.

10. Dreadful earthquake at Poonah, in the East Indies. The earth opened, and the extensive district of Kutch sunk, with 2000 inhabitants.

During the voyage last year to Baffin's-bay a bottle was thrown into the sea, from lieutenant Parry's ship, off Cape Farewell. About two months since the bottle was found in the island of Bartragh in Killalabay, and is supposed to have floated, at the rate of eight miles per day, across the Atlantic.

14. A large meeting of unemployed workmen on Hunslet-moor, near Leeds, to petition for annual parliaments and universal suffrage.

16. A meeting of the weavers at Glasgow for similar objects.

July 1. The attainder against lord Edward Fitzgerald reversed.

5. Great meeting of radicals at Stockport.

6. Madame Blanchard made a nocturnal ascent in a balloon at Paris amidst a display of fireworks: when at a considerable height it took fire, and the unfortunate aeronaut was killed.

7. Lord Sidmouth issued circular letters to the lords-lieutenant of the disturbed counties, recommending prompt and effectual means for the preservation of the public tranquillity, and that the yeomanry should hold themselves in readiness.

12. A meeting of parliamentary reformers at Newhall-hill, Birmingham, to the number of 15,000: sir Charles Wolseley nominated, by a show of hands, "legislatorial attorney and representative for Birmingham."

The number of suicides, attempted or executed, in the first four months of this year at Paris amounted to 124, of which 33 were by females. Among them were 64 married, and 60 unmarried: 53 destroyed themselves from disgust of life, the rest from pecuniary difficulties.

13. Parliamentary session terminated.

22. A radical meeting in Smithfield; Henry Hunt presided. Mr. Harrison was arrested at the hustings on a charge of sedition at Stockport. Great military preparations, and 6000 special constables sworn in, to preserve the peace of the city.

24. A constable who had arrested sir C. Wolseley for sedition openly shot in the streets of Stockport.

A female reform-society established at

Blackburn, from which circular letters were issued, inviting the wives and daughters of workmen to form *sister* societies for the purpose of co-operating with the men, and instilling into the minds of their children "a deep-rooted hatred of our tyrannical rulers."

26. A numerous meeting at the City of London tavern to consider the scheme of social improvement of Mr. Owen of Lanark, the duke of Kent in the chair. It was resolved to carry the plan into effect, and a subscription was opened for the purpose.

27. At West-end fair, near London, 200 ruffians armed with bludgeons robbed with impunity, and grossly ill-treated several females. The number and strength of the thieves deterred the police from interfering.

30. A proclamation issued by the prince-regent against military training, seditious meetings, and writings, and the election of "legislatorial attorneys."

Aug. 1. A congress of the continental powers held at Carlsbad, when some resolutions were agreed to, denouncing the freedom of the press and liberal opinions.

7. Drury-lane theatre let to Mr. Elliston for 10,200*l.* a-year (exclusive of the fruit-offices) for 14 years, during which he was to expend 15,000*l.* in repairs.

9. The Manchester reformers having convened a meeting for the choice of a parliamentary representative, they were apprised by the magistrates that the object was illegal; upon which the design was abandoned, and a meeting convened for the 16th, to petition for a reform in parliament.

10. First stone of Menai-bridge laid; by which the island of Anglesey is connected with Caernarvon, and the Bangor ferry superseded. The design is by Mr. Telford, on the suspension principle.

16. MANCHESTER REFORM MEETING.—This memorable meeting was held on a piece of ground called St. Peter's-field, adjoining a church of that name. During the whole of the morning large bodies of reformers, arrayed in regular order, continued marching into Manchester from the neighbouring towns and villages. Each had its banner; some with caps of liberty, and bearing the inscriptions, "No Corn Laws," "Annual Parliaments," "Vote by Ballot," "Liberty or Death." Two clubs of female reformers advanced, one of them numbering upwards of one hundred and fifty members, and bearing a white silk banner. A band of special constables took up a position in the field without resistance. At one o'clock, when Mr. Hunt took the chair, the numbers assembled were estimated at 50,000 men, women, and children, all in holiday spirits. The chairman expressed his full confidence in their peaceable demeanour, nor was an offensive weapon to be seen among them.

While he was speaking, surprise was excited by the appearance of the yeoman-cavalry at the extremity of the field, who, after pausing a moment to breathe their horses, brandished their swords, and charged, right through the crowd, up to the platform. On coming up, the commanding-officer told Hunt he was their prisoner, and, with Johnson and others, was taken into custody. A cry now rose among the military, of "Have at their flags;" and they struck down not only those fixed round the platform, but others dispersed through the field, charging right and left with their drawn swords, and dashing through all that obstructed their passage. A dreadful scene of confusion and terror ensued, numbers being trampled under the feet of the horses, or cut down, men and women indiscriminately: while a body of magistrates, at the head of whom was a Christian minister, viewed the bloody scene in security, from the windows of an adjacent house, and are said to have read the Riot-act; but this was known to few, and it is certain no time was allowed for dispersion, as scarcely twenty minutes had elapsed from the opening of the meeting before the massacre began. The killed and wounded was upwards of four hundred. Coroners' inquests were held on the bodies of the slain; but the verdicts of the juries were evasive, and led to no judicial proceeding. Bills preferred against individuals of the yeomanry to the grand-jury at Lancaster were thrown out, and their example was pleaded by the Manchester magistrates for refusing to commit on any charge connected with the transactions of the 16th. True bills, however, were found against Messrs. Hunt, Moorhouse, Johnson, and seven others, for a conspiracy to overturn the government.

27. Lord Sidmouth communicated to the Manchester magistrates, and to major Trafford, and the military serving under him, the thanks of the prince-regent "for their prompt, decisive, and efficient measures for the preservation of the public tranquillity" on the 16th instant.

Sept. 2. Meeting in Westminster, at which sir Francis Burdett presided, relative to the late outrage at Manchester. Meetings were also held about the same period in the city of London, at Glasgow, York, Bristol, Liverpool, Norwich, and Nottingham, to address the regent or parliament on the same subject. Some petitioned for inquiry; others passed a strong censure on the Manchester authorities and the ministers who advised the royal letter of thanks. There were also counter-addresses, calling for the repression of sedition and blasphemy; one from the city of London with 5000 signatures.



25. **OLDHAM INQUEST.**—A coroner's inquest was held at Oldham on John Lees, who was killed at the Manchester meeting on the 16th of August. After hearing an immense mass of conflicting testimony, the coroner unexpectedly adjourned the inquest to December 1st. Before this period arrived, the case being referred to the court of King's-bench, the whole proceedings were declared null and void by the irregularity of the coroner himself, who had neglected to view the body in the presence of the jury, as by law required, and the court in consequence directed that *no verdict* should be returned. By this decision the hope that had been cherished, of obtaining a legal decision on the character of the Manchester affair, was destroyed.

Oct. 12. Richard Carlile tried and found guilty of a blasphemous libel, in republishing Paine's "Age of Reason." The trial lasted three days, and the accused defended himself. He was also found guilty of publishing Palmer's "Principles of Nature," an American publication. Upon being brought up for judgment (November 16th), an affidavit was put in by the defendant, stating that 3000 copies of the "Age of Reason" had been sold at half-a-guinea a copy. For both libels he was sentenced to three years' imprisonment in Dorchester gaol, and to pay 1500*l.* fine.

23. Earl Fitzwilliam dismissed from the lord-lieutenancy of the West Riding of Yorkshire, having signed the requisition for the York meeting on the Manchester outrage. In consequence of the earl's dismissal, several officers resigned their commissions in the Yorkshire yeomanry.

Nov. 6. As a precaution against the designs of the radicals, lord Sidmouth issued a circular to the lords-lieutenant, directing that all pieces of cannon "*laying about*" in the streets were to be removed out of the way, or made useless.

23. Parliament opened by the regent, who was greeted in no flattering manner by the populace. In the lords an amendment to the address was moved by earl Grey, with reference to the Manchester proceedings, which were characterised as illegal and unconstitutional; and ably supported by Erskine, but negatived by 159 peers to 34. A similar amendment, after two days' debate, was negatived in the commons, 150 members voting for, and 381 against, inquiry.

30. **SIX ACTS.**—Lord Sidmouth, in the upper house, and lord Castlereagh, in the lower, gave an outline of the coercive measures they had in contemplation in the present state of the country. They acquired the name of the "Six Acts," and consisted of the following bills:—1. To take away the right of traversing in cases of misdemea-

nor: 2. To punish any person, found guilty, on a second conviction, of libel, by fine, imprisonment, and *banishment* (as first introduced, *transportation*) for life: 3. For preventing seditious meetings, requiring the names of seven householders to the requisition, which in future convened any meeting for the discussion of subjects connected with church or state: 4. To prohibit military training, except under the authority of a magistrate or lord-lieutenant: 5. Subjecting cheap periodical pamphlets on political subjects to a duty similar to newspapers: 6. And lastly, a bill giving magistrates the power of entering houses *by night* or by day, for the purpose of seizing arms, believed to be collected for unlawful purposes. These bills were all carried by large majorities; the entering houses *by night*, and the severity of the restrictions on the press, were chiefly objected to; but there appeared a general concurrence in the necessity of strong measures.

Dec. 1. Upon a motion by the marquis of Lansdowne, for an inquiry into the state of the manufacturing districts, the Manchester affair was again discussed. Marquis Wellesley agreed that the country was in danger; but the danger proceeded from the advocates of annual parliaments and universal suffrage. Lord Grenville declared he could see no necessity for the present motion, nor an inquiry into the Manchester transactions, convinced, as he was, that the conduct of the magistrates was highly meritorious. Motion negatived by 178 to 47.

3. Mr. Cobbett arrived in London from America. In his way from Liverpool he had purposed passing through Manchester, but was deterred by the preparations made by the magistrates for his reception.

15. Mr. J. C. Hobhouse taken into custody by a warrant of the speaker, for observations on the house of commons, in his pamphlet of a "Trifling Mistake," and committed to Newgate.

Miss O'Neil, the celebrated tragic actress, married to W. W. Becher, M.P.

30. The labourers of St. Giles's petitioned parliament to be employed in cultivating the four millions of waste land in Ireland.

31. The poor experienced great distress from the severity of weather. In London places were opened for the reception of the houseless, under the patronage of benevolent persons.

FRANCE.—At the beginning of the year a new ministry was appointed, with M. de Cazes at their head. They were popular, but the ultra-royalists carried a vote in the house of peers which tended to destroy the freedom of election. Louis XVIII. inclined to the moderate party, and, to se-

cure their preponderance, he created 54 new peers, and recalled twenty-two of the number erased from the list in 1815, chiefly the marshals and adherents of Napoleon. Some relaxation was made in the law restraining the liberty of the press; and the attempts made to renew the outrages against protestants in the south of France were defeated. Agriculture was flourishing, and the arts and all branches of industry beginning to revive.

GERMANY.—In Hanover, where the duke of Cambridge acted as regent, the states abolished torture, reduced the army, and made the nobles liable to share in public burdens. Bavaria, Wirtemberg, and Baden had redeemed the pledges given to their subjects pending the struggle with Napoleon, to grant them constitutions; but Prussia acted evasively. Great discontents were in consequence manifested among the intelligent part of the population, and many patriots were imprisoned or banished for insisting on their civil rights. The professors and students of the universities were strenuous in their efforts to obtain the establishment of constitutional governments. But zeal carried them to excess, and Austria and the leading powers became alarmed at the existence of secret associations. The Russian students were recalled from the German universities. The diet established a central tribunal at Mentz, with inquisitorial authority to hunt out and punish all suspected of political offences.

SOUTH AMERICA.—The efforts of those provinces had been recently crowned with success. General Bolivar completely defeated the royalist armies in New Grenada, hoisted the standard of republicanism, and proclaimed the union of New Grenada with Venezuela, under the general name of Columbia. A republican constitution was afterwards promulgated for these vast regions, and an assembly of representatives opened by a speech from the liberator replete with moderation and political wisdom. Lord Cochrane, who had fitted out a ship in England to join the patriots, was appointed to the command of the Chilian squadron, and displayed his characteristic skill and enterprise.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—At Somers-town, Dr. Walcot, 81, better known as *Peter Pindar*. In Canada, of which he was governor-general, Charles fourth duke of Richmond, of hydrophobia: it resulted from the bite of a lap-dog, six weeks previously. James Watt, LL.D., 83, the celebrated improver of the steam-engine and cultivator of natural philosophy. John Playfair, D.D., F.R.S., 70, professor of mathematics in the university of Edinburgh, and eminent philosophical writer.

Samuel Lysons, F.R.S., 56, keeper of the records in the Tower, and distinguished antiquarian. Right Hon. George Rose, 73, author of a pamphlet on the "Influence of the Crown," and an active and industrious placeman under Mr. Pitt's ministry. Dr. Cyril Jackson, 79, master of Christchurch, and preceptor of the prince-regent. Malcolm Laing, 57, late M.P., and Scottish historian.

A.D. 1820. Jan. 1. Colonels Riego and Quirvoga proclaimed the constitution adopted by the cortes in 1812, and marched towards Cadiz.

7. Birmingham theatre burnt. It was at first ascribed to the radicals in revenge of the ultra-loyalty of manager Bunn, who nightly persisted in singing "God save the King;" but was found to have proceeded from the wadding of a pistol having unobserved lodged in the scenery.

19. Foreign journals prohibited in Austria.

The Rev. Mr. Hay, rector of Ackworth, chairman of the Lancaster quarter-sessions, and the leading magistrate at Manchester (August 16), presented to the valuable vicarage of Rochdale by the archbishop of Canterbury.

23. Died, at Sidmouth, in his 53rd year, prince Edward, duke of Kent, fourth son of the king. His death was occasioned by exposure to wet and cold, after a long walk, on the 13th instant. He left behind him a widow, the sister of prince Leopold, and a daughter only eight months old, to whom he bequeathed all his property, by a will dated on the day preceding his dissolution. The duke had been much in the army, where he was a strict disciplinarian. His habits were tinged with eccentricity, but he was much respected for his charitable disposition and moderation. In politics he did not take an active part, but inclined to the side of the opposition more than to that of ministers.

27. ARCHES COURT.—A curious case occurred in Doctors'-commons:—George Norton, esq., sought to annul his marriage on the ground of his own impotency! The object was stated to be to protect the legal heirs to Mr. Norton's property, the lady, after seven years of cohabitation, turning out to be pregnant. Sir J. Nicholl, and all the lawyers, agreed that the suit was wholly unprecedented. The husband was 45 years of age when he married in 1812, and the wife 23; and he now prayed a divorce, *propter naturalem et insanabilem defectum suum*. The learned judge dismissed the suit, chiefly on the ground of the time that had elapsed since the nuptials, and that the husband married with a knowledge of his impotency.

Another curious case in the Consistory



court was that of Mrs. Mortimer of Blackheath. In 1811 Mrs. M. gave birth to a male child, and, being alarmingly ill, she, in the belief of approaching death, told her husband that she could not die happy without relieving her mind by confessing to him that she had long carried on an adulterous intercourse with a Mr. Young. The same evening she received the sacrament, but unexpectedly recovered. Mr. Mortimer, however, determined upon a separation, and, after consulting with the lady's father, it was mutually agreed that she should go and live with him, Mr. Mortimer agreeing to allow her a maintenance of 100*l* a-year. Mrs. Mortimer now applied to the court for a restitution of conjugal rights, on the ground that no legal proof of adultery existed against her—her own confession not being admissible as such. Sir John Nicholl refused the application.

29. DEATH OF GEORGE III.—The late king was in the 82nd year of his age, and the 60th of his reign. He had issue, by queen Charlotte, seven sons and five daughters, of whom six of the former and four of the latter survived him. His bodily health had continued good till within two or three months of his dissolution; but he had not enjoyed a lucid interval since the beginning of the regency, in 1811. His majesty's recollection of past events was exact; and occasional sketches of the persons and characters of his early ministers often formed the subject of his lonely soliloquies at Windsor. He had long been totally blind and almost deaf; and, from the aversion he had to any of his attendants rendering him personal assistance, his beard had been suffered to grow to an almost patriarchal length. Before his deafness he frequently amused himself at the harpsichord, and seldom played anything but the music of his favourite Handel. The duke of York, lords Henley and Winchelsea, and general Taylor, were present when the king died. St. Paul's bell began tolling at midnight. It was preceded by the tolling of all the other church-bells in London. The dean ordered the great bell of the abbey to begin tolling at one o'clock.

PUBLIC STATUTES. LVI. TO LX.  
GEORGE III.

56 Geo. III., c. 22 and c. 23. Regulates intercourse with the island of St. Helena during the detention of Buonaparte, and indemnifies persons concerned in his detention.

Cap. 60. Transfers dividends, lottery-prizes, &c., unclaimed for ten years, to commissioners for reduction of national debt.

Cap. 68. Provides a new silver coinage, and recalls the old. Silver bullion to be coined into silver coins of a standard fineness of 11 oz. 2 dwts. of fine silver, and 18 dwts. of alloy in the pound troy; and in weight at the rate of 66*s.* to every pound troy, whether in crowns, half-crowns, shillings, or sixpences. Gold coin the only legal tender throughout the United Kingdom for any sum exceeding 40*s.* (before it was 25*l*.) either by weight, tale, or otherwise. Weight and fineness of gold coin, 22 carats fine, and 2 alloy, divided into 44*½* guineas of the present value of 21*s.*, or proportionably in any coinage of gold, of a new denomination. Under the latter clause sovereigns were issued early in the next reign, containing  $\frac{21}{20}$  parts of a guinea, of the like standard fineness.

Cap. 100. Securing liberty of subject, empowering judges to issue writ of habeas corpus, and make the same returnable to themselves in vacation.

Cap. 120. For procuring annual returns of criminals in Ireland.

Cap. 138. Abolishes pillory except for perjury and subornation of perjury.

57 Geo. III., c. 3. Suspends habeas corpus act.

Cap. 6. Preservation of sovereign's person against treasonable practices.

Cap. 7. Seduction of soldiers.

Cap. 19. Prevention of seditious meetings.

Cap. 61. Abolishes offices of wardens, chief-justices, and justices in eyre, north and south of Trent.

Cap. 65. Recompensing persons who have held high and efficient offices; pensions granted to first lord of the treasury, chancellor of the exchequer, &c., after holding offices fixed periods: intended as an equivalent for sinecures that were abolished at this period.

Cap. 75. Abolishes whipping of female offenders.

Cap. 93. Regulates costs of distresses for small rents.

58 Geo. III., c. 30. Prevents frivolous actions of assault and slander. If damages recorded under 40*s.*, costs obtained not to exceed 40*s.*

Cap. 45. For building additional churches in populous parishes.

Cap. 70. Abolishes rewards on conviction of persons of highway robbery and other offences; facilitates prosecution of such offences; suppression of disorderly houses. These rewards, or *blood-money*, as it was termed, were found to be an inducement to perjury, and police-officers and others had been convicted of inveigling persons into the commission of crimes for the sake of the rewards.

Cap. 91. Appoints commissioners for in-

quiry into the management of public charities left for the education of the poor; universities and public schools exempt from inquiry. The act originated in the inquiries of a parliamentary committee, of which Mr. Brougham was the very efficient chairman, and which discovered great abuses in the management of public charities.

Cap. 95. Election of county coroners regulated.

59 Geo. III., c. 7. Prevents frauds in cutlery trade.

Cap. 35. Establishes trial by jury in civil causes in Scotland.

Cap. 39. Qualification of M.P.'s.

Cap. 46. Abolishes appeals and wager of battle.

Cap. 49. Bank restriction continued till May 1, 1823; gradual resumption of cash payments; export of gold and silver allowed.

Cap. 127. Provides for care of pauper lunatics.

60 Geo. III., c. 1. Against military training and exercises.

Cap. 2. Authorises justices to seize arms in disturbed counties in England and Scotland.

Cap. 4. Prevents delay in administration of justice.

Cap. 6. Prevents seditious meetings.

Cap. 8. Prevents blasphemous and seditious libels.

Cap. 9. Subjects certain periodical pamphlets containing matter relative to church or state to the newspaper stamp-duty.

Cap. 14. Remedies inconveniences in committing power of magistrates in local and peculiar jurisdictions.

#### FINANCE, TAXATION OF IRELAND, MR. SECRETARY PEEL'S BILL.

THE period from the peace to the king's death was one of fiscal difficulty, and the impatience of the people to be relieved of their most irksome burdens, combined with the stagnation of trade, made it impossible for ministers to act on a general system of finance. The course contemplated by government at the close of the war was to keep up an efficient sinking-fund, and to continue, during several years, the property-tax on the reduced scale of 5 per cent. This plan fell to the ground on the rejection of that tax by the house of commons, March 19, 1816; a rejection altogether unexpected by ministers, who were so chagrined at the eagerness of the rich to throw off their share of the war-taxes, that they voluntarily, and as an act of justice to the poor, gave up the war-duty on malt. Thus the public was at once re-

lieved to the amount of about 17 millions per annum. Great as was this easement to the community, it was not equivalent to the loss sustained by the fall in prices, and consequent diminution of profits and income to the productive classes; while, on the other hand, ministers were embarrassed by the sudden withdrawal of so large a portion of the revenue, and, compelling them to continue the practice of anticipation, exchequer-bills were issued, and a loan of nine millions borrowed from the Bank. In consequence of the system forced on government, no progress was made in the reduction of the public debt of the kingdom during the first five years of the peace: on the contrary, it greatly increased, and in January, 1819, the annual interest of the debt exceeded by 5,202,771*l.* (*Parl. Paper, No. 35, Sess. 1819*) the interest in 1815. To continue augmenting the debt in peace as well as war could only have one inevitable issue; but the general eagerness for relief left no alternative to government. In 1819, however, they made an effort to bring the income nearer to the expenditure. In that year, having called on parliament to give efficiency to the sinking-fund, they succeeded in a measure little expected in the midst of peace, the imposition of new taxes to the amount of three millions. These were imposed chiefly on malt, spirits, and tobacco, and paid with reluctance during the next two years of doubt and embarrassment. It was not till the following reign that financial prospects brightened, and which was brought about by the restoration of tranquillity among the working classes, the reduction of the 5 per cents., and a transfer of a portion of the half-pay and pension-list to the next generation.

The following exhibits the nett income of the country during the first five years of peace, from taxes and loans (the last inclusive of exchequer-bills funded and the excess of issue):—

Year.	By Taxes.	By Loans.
1816	£62,635,711	£18,890,771
1817	52,372,403	17,325,061
1818	53,959,218	33,330,806
1819	53,291,508	23,255,859
1820	55,063,693	28,127,480

The property-tax received in 1816 amounted to 12,276,871*l.*; in 1817, to 2,568,654*l.*; in 1818, to 658,338*l.*; in subsequent years the arrears received were inconsiderable.

Prior to 1798 no uniform account of income and expenditure was laid before the nation. In that year a committee of parliament was appointed to arrange an order and form of accounts to be presented annually to the house of commons. The



union of exchequers forms another epoch in finance which it is important to notice. On the 5th of January, 1817, the exchequer of Ireland was united to that of Great Britain. All our previous statements of income, up to 1816, inclusive, refer to the revenue of England and Scotland apart from Ireland, which, previous to the consolidation of the two exchequers, had its own chancellor of the exchequer and public accounts. As we have not hitherto given any account of the revenue of Ireland, we subjoin a statement of the sums raised by taxes in that kingdom, exclusive of loans, from the Union to 1820 :

	£.		£.
1800	2,409,493	1811	5,550,743
1801	3,462,234	1812	6,304,375
1802	4,353,790	1813	6,504,558
1803	3,663,715	1814	7,154,070
1804	4,042,628	1815	7,334,786
1805	4,224,131	1816	6,204,785
1806	4,894,829	1817	5,541,410
1807	5,502,130	1818	5,611,215
1808	5,687,617	1819	5,401,217
1809	5,490,343	1820	4,715,314
1810	4,970,148		

Measures were adopted, towards the close of the present reign, for the restoration of the currency. For this purpose a bill was passed, in 1819, for the resumption of cash-payments by the Bank of England, commonly called Mr. Peel's Bill. The time fixed was May, 1823; but the Bank, having accumulated a large supply of gold, anticipated this period, and recommenced specie-payments in May, 1821. Before the enactment of Peel's bill, bank-paper had almost entirely recovered from its previous depreciation, which greatly facilitated the return to cash-payments. This recovery was partly occasioned by the breaking of the country-banks in 1814, 1815, and 1816, and the immense reduction in provincial paper, which, leaving an opening for the circulation of the Bank, raised its value nearly to a par with gold. In 1815 paper, which had been depreciated 16 per cent. below that of gold, rose, in 1817-18, without the interference of government, to within little more than  $2\frac{1}{2}$  of the value of gold; and in 1819 the depreciation amounted to only  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. (*McCulloch's Com. Dict., 1st edit. 71.*) It follows that the rise in the value of the currency could not have originated in Mr. Peel's bill, since the change had been in great part consummated before Mr. Peel's act was passed. It is to other causes that we must ascribe the fall in the prices of commodities; namely, to a diminution in the cost of production by the more extensive use of machinery, to the competition

of foreign products, and the extinction of monopolies.

#### COMMERCE, OFFICIAL AND DECLARED VALUE OF EXPORTS, DEPRECIATION IN PRICE.

DURING the war commercial prosperity was commonly ascribed to certain monopolies in navigation and commerce, which we enjoyed in virtue of our naval superiority. These were unquestionably advantages. Without the command of the seas, our colonies would have been liable to be captured, our trade interrupted, and partly destroyed. The ascendancy of our navy kept open for us the common highway of nations: it prevented detriment from the war, but it did not open new outlets for British produce and manufactures further than by an extension from the acquisition of the colonies of the enemy. The war was not commercial nor maritime. France, after the loss of the Toulon fleet and the decisive victory of Howe on the 1st of June, ceased to contend with us for the mastery of the ocean. It was not on that element her existence was endangered, but on land, and it was to resist the continental powers leagued against her that she concentrated her energies and resources. In balancing the losses and gains of hostilities to British commerce, it is probable the former preponderated. The conquest of sugar-islands, and the extension of the colonial market, to which Mr. Pitt and his colleagues were wont to attach such undue importance, and which constituted their chief trophy, was not an equivalent for the interdiction of mercantile intercourse with Spain, Holland, Belgium, and Italy. Neither did the increase of the carrying-trade make up the deficiency; for this was an advantage of trifling import, and one in which we shared in common with the Americans, Danes, Prussians, and other neutral states. Because trade increased during the war, its prosperity seems to have been erroneously ascribed to it; whereas had general peace continued—had the nations of Europe not been impoverished and their intercourse impeded by hostilities, it is highly probable that all of them (England especially) would have advanced, much more rapidly than they did, in riches, industry, and commerce. So far as Britain is concerned, this conclusion is incontestable; for though British commerce increased greatly during the war, it increased still faster during peace,—a truth clearly shown by a comparative return of exports.

The average exports of Britain for nine years, from 1793 to 1802, were 30,760,000*l.*

The average exports of ten years of the second war, from 1803 to 1812, both in-

clusive (leaving out 1813, the records of which were destroyed by the fire of the custom-house, and considering 1802 as a year of peace), were 42,145,000*l*.

But the average exports of the seven years of peace, from 1814 to 1820, both inclusive, were 53,922,000*l*.; showing the proportionately more rapid extension of commerce during the latter than the two former periods.

It may be here repeated that the first years of peace were years of difficulty, arising from unfavourable harvests, prevalence of political discontent, unsettled state of the currency, and revulsion in prices. But the tranquil period of the next reign will more clearly establish the superior commercial advantages of peace over war, and to that we defer a more detailed exposition of the progress of commerce and manufactures since 1815.

The value of exports given above is the *official value*; but the conclusion would have been the same had we used the declared value. (*Lowe's Present State of England*, p. 26.) A discrepancy between these different forms of custom-house returns had now become very apparent, and increased still more glaringly during the reign of George IV. It may be suitable in this place to explain the origin of the difference.

The *official* value of exports is computed according to the weight or magnitude of merchandise, and at a uniform rate of price fixed so far back as 1698. The *declared* value of exports is computed according to the value declared by the exporting merchant, and varies with the fluctuations of the market. Official value measures the quantity of commodities annually exported; declared value, their current prices. It is a curious fact in the commercial progress of the country, that the increase in the declared value of exports has not kept pace with the increase in their quantity. While the exports of British produce and manufactures rather more than doubled in quantity in the twenty years from 1798 to 1818, the declared value of them only increased from 33,148,682*l*. in 1798 to 45,188,250*l*. in 1818. This discrepancy began to be most apparent about 1808, and has continued, with accelerated pace, its downward progress to the present time. The causes which have enabled merchants to offer our cottons, linens, hardwares, and other products, to foreigners at such greatly reduced prices, must be sought for in the reduction of wages and profits; the use of machinery, which has lessened the cost of production; and the fall in the price of the raw material. As price is merely relative, if the depreciation in the money value of our imports had been proportionate, no national loss would have been sustained.

But this is probably not so. The cheaper rate at which we have offered our manufactures abroad is an advantage obtained in part by the reduction in the price of manufacturing labour at home; thereby abridging the comforts of those whose employments have been superseded or abridged by the competition of mechanical applications.

#### POPULAR EDUCATION, BELL AND LANCASTER, PUBLIC CHARITIES.

THE institution of charity-schools in 1698, and of Sunday schools in 1781, were steps at long intervals towards the education of the English poor. In 1797-8 a further advance was made by the schemes of popular instruction brought under public notice by Dr. Bell and Joseph Lancaster. Their plans excited much interest, and by the introduction of mutual instruction, slate writing, reading, and pronouncing by syllables, and a mode of tuition better adapted to juvenile minds, great improvements were effected in the practice of education. It was rendered more expeditious, less expensive, and not so irksome and unnatural to children. From Dr. Bell the National School Society had its origin, and from Mr. Lancaster, the British and Foreign School Society; the latter being patronised by the Dissenters, and the former by the Established Church, between whom there long existed a rivalry that terminated to the benefit of the community by the establishment of many useful institutions.

INFANT SCHOOLS formed another useful auxiliary of popular instruction. The idea of an infant school was suggested by the asylum founded by Mr. Owen for the children of the adult population of New Lanark. The objects sought by these establishments were threefold: first, to provide a receptacle for children whose parents are occupied during the day, or unable or unwilling to take care of them; secondly, to instruct them in the rudiments of virtue and knowledge; and, thirdly, to accomplish both these ends by a more natural and cheerful mode of instruction than heretofore practised in dame schools. The first infant school in the metropolis was established in 1818 under the auspices of lords Lansdowne and Dacre, and Messrs. Brougham, Macaulay, Mill, and Wilson. They are now pretty general throughout Britain and in Ireland.

About 1819 Robert Owen began to attract attention by the zeal with which he sought to promote his RATIONAL SYSTEM OF SOCIETY. His leading idea was that the character of man is not formed *by him* but *for him*, either by natural organization or the external circumstances to which he



has been subjected from birth. Hence Mr. Owen concluded that by improving the circumstances which surrounded an individual in his early years the individual himself may be improved, and, in place of an inferior, he may be made a very superior being. The main position that the "child is father to the man" was readily conceded, but difference of opinion prevailed as to the best practical application of this truth. The philanthropist himself was for establishing separate and insulated communities, from which evil example and association should as much as possible be excluded, and in place of the competition and emulation of every-day life, equality and community of property and labour be substituted. As Mr. Owen's ideas involved an entire change in the existing structure of society, they encountered opposition, but in the following reign he had obtained a sufficient number of followers to subject his scheme of social amelioration to a course of experimental trial.

During the four last years of the present reign Mr. Brougham was almost unceasingly occupied in suggestions and inquiries for the advancement of popular education. His aim was two-fold: first, to introduce a parochial system of instruction; secondly, to provide funds for the undertaking, either by a public provision, or by restitution to their original purposes of the misapplied endowments of charitable foundations. As chairman of a parliamentary committee appointed to "inquire into the education of the lower orders," he collected a mass of useful information, showing, first, the large portion of the population that were without the means of instruction; and, secondly, the vast funds existing in the kingdom, piously bequeathed for the purpose, but which had been misapplied by the fraud and negligence of trustees. The result of his powerful exertions was the appointment of a commission to inquire into the abuses of public charities; and in the first session of the new reign (June 28, 1820), in an able speech he brought the subject of popular education under the notice of parliament. The leading feature of his project was to render national education subordinate to the established clergy. Parochial schools were to be established and partly maintained by a school-rate levied on housekeepers, and partly by a trifling weekly payment by scholars. Mr. Brougham said there were 12,000 parishes in England. Of these, 3500 had not a vestige of a school endowed, unendowed, or dame. Of the remainder, 3500 had endowed schools, and the other 5500 relied entirely on unendowed schools, of course fleeting and casual. (*Ann Reg.*, lxii. 5.) A bill founded

on this exposition was brought in, but after a first reading was abandoned. The established clergy, though the new measure would have given them the control of parochial education, were not satisfied, because dissenters were not excluded from its benefits. On the other hand, the sectaries were jealous of the great influence it gave to the established clergy.

COURT OF GEORGE III.—NOBILITY AND MIDDLE CLASSES, PUBLIC MANNERS, POLICE, COSTUME, AND NEWSPAPERS.

THE reign of George III. began with a proclamation against vice and profaneness, and there appeared a disposition in the young sovereign to reform, by his own example, the manners of his court. The licentiousness which had been imported from Hanover, and which was common to the petty courts of Germany, was openly practised during the reigns of his two predecessors. Both George I. and George II. lived in concubinage, they both kept mistresses: but the early marriage of their successor, with a discreet princess, cut off this adjunct of royalty, and the gross impropriety of the monarch selecting the wives of his courtiers, and pensioning the husbands, ceased to be the practice of St. James's. Stricter etiquette, as well as decorum, was enforced in the new reign. This was probably a contrivance of the earl of Bute, whose aim was not only to humble the aristocracy, but by keeping them at a greater distance from the throne to preserve, undiminished, his influence over the king, his consort, and the princess dowager of Wales. An anecdote related by the countess of Craven will illustrate the system of the favourite, and the discipline to which he sought to accustom the nobility. "Her majesty expressed a desire to see a certain painting done by lady Bolingbroke. As a peeress of the realm, her ladyship thought it proper to attend herself with the picture; and, although a lady of the bedchamber, but not in waiting, she sent a page to say that she was solicitous to present the picture in person. Lord Bute who was present with their majesties at the time, came out and said in a peremptory manner that lady Bolingbroke must deliver it to the lady in waiting." (*Memoirs of the Margravine of Anspach*, i. 38.) It was thought derogatory to regal dignity for queen Charlotte to receive anything from the hands of a lady, even a peeress, unless officially in attendance.

For a long time after his marriage the court of George III. continued very dull, very decorous, and very parsimonious. The royal family rarely appeared in public, and the retirement in which they lived

became a subject of complaint. Devoted to the nurture of a numerous family, in the seclusion of Windsor or Kew, these were, probably, the king's happiest days, and his homely joys were only interrupted by the intrigues of politicians, an envenomed shaft from the pen of Junius, or the appearance of Wilkes's terrible "North Britain," No. 45. A gayer scene opened by the prince of Wales and duke of York attaining their majorities, and the rise of the princesses into womanhood. The prince was the "prince of good fellows," and won all hearts; he became the choice companion of the convivial and accomplished—appeared familiarly on the turf, and at the club-houses, and attended the brilliant *soirées* at Devonshire-house, where he was charmed with the wit of George Selwyn, or the mellifluous vocal notes of young Wilberforce, the new M.P. for Hull. The icyness of the court was now thawed; even queen Charlotte became hospitable and condescending, dined with the citizens at Guildhall, resplendent with diamonds and ugliness; gave *fêtes champêtre* at Frogmore, where the princesses were amused with Dutch fairs, the feats of tumblers and fortune-tellers. St. George's Hall often rung with the festive gatherings of the scions of nobility met to commemorate a royal birth-day, a house-warming, or other joyous event. The good king did his part; he kept up the old English customs of early dinners and early risings; but shone at militia and volunteer reviews in the Windsor uniform; took vigorous equestrian exercise; chatted familiarly with the farmers, with Dr. Beattie, the great lexicographer, and Joseph Lancaster, the popular educationist, and delighted at the evening promenade on the Castle terrace, in the midst of his lieges and his children, allowed to be the finest royal family in Europe.

These were the *beaux jours* of the court. They were also the palmy days of our splendid aristocracy. They had all that nobility could wish for; they had honour, reverence, and troops of friends; there was no third party to challenge their political supremacy, they had no rivals even in riches, for they had the broad acres, which constituted in a much larger proportion than at present the wealth of the community; they had also the boroughs, the church, and corporations, the army and navy, the public offices and both houses of parliament; they had even the populace of the towns, for everything was either whig or tory, or nothing. Parliamentary elections were theirs; the people not being troubled with the choice of representatives, or even the labour of thought; all being done for them by their

lordly superiors, or by their clever retainers, who, like Burke, Sheridan, and Francis, were engaged in the advocacy of the sentiments of their patrons. The borough elections were settled at Boodle's or the Cocoa Tree, and the counties were often a mere drawing-room arrangement: Mr. Wilberforce says (*Life by his Sons*, i. 56), sir George Saville was chosen member for Yorkshire by the "whig grandees" in the marquis of Rockingham's dining-room. "In those days they kept up a vast deal of state, and the great men all drove up in their coaches and six." Wilberforce was returned for Yorkshire in 1784, by the middle class of freeholders. At that time the clothiers of the West Riding were all tories (*ibid.* 51).

The burgesse order has always been narrowing the aristocratic circle. It was the rise of the cities and towns that destroyed the feudal system. These causes of the decline of the nobility were greatly strengthened by the astonishing mechanical discoveries of the present reign. It was in truth the spinning-jenny and smoke of the steam-engine that dimmed the lustre of the aristocracy. They were made richer by the change, but relatively to other classes they became poorer. Accompanied as these wonderful inventions have been by the rise of Dissent and Radicalism, they deprived the patrician class of the autocracy of wealth and numbers which they before possessed. They are, however, still a magnificent pillar of the state, whose condition needs no commiseration. It is not that they have fallen so much as that other classes have risen into competition with them; and if their exclusiveness has been encroached upon, it has been more than compensated to them by a vast increase of enjoyments, and that enviable social distinction which they continue to hold by courtesy, if not so absolutely as heretofore by indefeasible pretensions.

The increase of national riches consequent on commercial prosperity was attended with the natural adjunct of a vast increase in the luxurious arts. Horticulture, architecture, music, painting, and sculpture, were munificently encouraged. Splendid mansions rose in every part of the country, replete with every enjoyment and convenience that wealth, art, and science could produce. It was about the middle of the king's reign that the nobility and successful commercialists, Angerstein, Beckford, Methuen, and Ellis, began to form those magnificent galleries of art that are now the astonishment and admiration of foreigners. The superb collections of some of the French noblesse and of their farmers-general, as well as those of Holland and Belgium, dispersed by political revolutions,



found ready purchasers in this opulent country; and the result is, that "not only in cabinet pictures, but pictures of all kinds, England is now supposed to be the richest depository of the works of the great masters in the world." (*Edinburgh Review*, cxxxvi. 401.) Luxury and improvement were rife in everything and among all classes. Private carriages, country-seats, and pleasure-horses multiplied. The hours of application were shortened; merchants and the better class of tradespeople, in lieu of their ledgers and counters, devoted the afternoon to wine, music, literature, or the theatres. Employments were more nicely subdivided; and in easement of their superiors, more superintendents, clerks, overseers, bailiffs, stewards, valets, footmen, and ladies' maids were kept than formerly. In towns, in-door apprenticeships became less frequent, and in the country there were less of yearly hiring, and the farmer and yeoman no longer sat down in common fellowship, at a common board, with his hind and husbandman. There was also great amelioration during the war in the condition of the labouring, handicraft, and artificer classes. Their clothing, lodging, furniture, and diet improved. If their masters exchanged the spinnet and harpsichord for the more dulcet notes of the piano or guitar, the treenware, the wooden spoon and trencher, and the pewter platter disappeared from cottages; and, what is more, that infallible sign of plebeian luxury, the wheaten loaf, after battling against the rye, the barley, and oats, in the South, at last wended its way from the Thames to the Tees, and is now struggling onward to the Clyde, the Frith of Forth, and John O'Groats.

There was moral as well as physical amendment. Intemperance might continue to be a Scotch or Irish, but ceased to be an English vice. A visitor no longer feared disobliging his host by leaving his table sober. Punch, that jolly but deleterious wassail-bowl, in which loan-mongers and contractors used to pledge bottle deep to the victories of Howe, St. Vincent, Jervis, and Bronte, disappeared. Wine was drunk in moderation, and more as a condiment to conversation than for the purpose of intoxication. Tavern duels ceased, and gentlemen who wore swords were compelled to adjourn the settlement of their disputes to Chalk-farm, Putney, or Battersea. There was less of the wild justice of nature allowed; street-fights were fewer; petty thieves were not allowed to be pumped upon or dragged through a horse-pond; nor juvenile delinquents scourged or maimed, at the mercy of individuals. In short, men were not suffered to adjudicate their wrongs agreeably to their passions and in-

terests, but were compelled to bring them before a suitable tribunal, by which the nominal amount of criminality was augmented, but strife and ill-blood among neighbours prevented, and greater order and security obtained. Police was rendered more efficient and better organized. That great approbium of London, the *trading-justices*, whose harvest was fees, arbitrarily extorted, were superseded by a stipendiary magistracy, who, being independent of the suitors, and their hours and places of session fixed, justice was surely and more impartially administered. Under this system, suggested by Conant and adopted by Mr. Secretary Dundas in 1792, great improvements were effected in the metropolis and neighbourhood. Travelling by night became as secure almost as by day; and those gangs of *disorderlies*,—foot-pads, prostitutes, demireps, and thieves, that used to congregate at Ranelagh, Apollo's-garden, and other places of licentious resort—were dispersed, or reduced to a state of discipline less publicly hurtful and offensive.

There were improvements in COSTUME AS well as in manners and behaviour. Various extravagances of attire survived queen Anne and the two first Georges. In the reign of the former the dress of noblemen and gentlemen consisted of square-cut coats and long-flapped waistcoats, meeting the stockings drawn over the knee so high as to conceal the breeches, but gartered below it: large hanging cuff and lace ruffles; the skirts of the coat stiffened out with wire or buckram, from between which peeped the hilt of the sword. Blue or scarlet silk stockings, with gold or silver clocks; square-toed, short-quartered shoes with high red heels and small buckles; very long and formally-curved perukes, with three-cornered hats laced with gold or silver, completed the outer man. The tie-wig, bob-wig, and pigtail, were the additions of the next two reigns. George III.'s reign began with a large cocked-hat, called a Kevenhuller, imported from Germany, some of which were open before, like a church spout or the scales they weigh flour in. Gold-laced hats are said to have been general in 1775 and in 1778 (*History of British Costume*, 314), and were adopted by many as a military distinction, or to escape the press-gangs that were busy in the latter year. Round hats began to be worn about the breaking out of the French revolution, which, beside the downfall of the three-cornered cocked-hat, witnessed also the disappearance of the wig and the practice of "frizzing, plastering, and powdering the hair, till it was at least as ugly as a wig." In 1789 the shirt-collar appeared, and the ruffle vanished. About the same period

pantaloon and Hessian boots were introduced (*History of British Costume*; 316): short boots and loose trousers were the result of the visit of the Cossacks in 1814, and with some slight variations in shape, together with the frock-coat, form the present undress. The changes in ladies' dress are too numerous and evanescent to follow. They continued to wear white stockings in mourning till 1778; hair-powder maintained its ground till 1793, when it was discarded by queen Charlotte and the princesses, and rapidly disappeared from the toilette. The large hoop was only worn at court or in full dress towards the close of the eighteenth century. Geo. IV. abolished the court-hoop.

The changes of fashion often caused great distress among workmen. In 1765 the peace of the metropolis was disturbed by the peruke-makers, who went in procession to petition the king against the innovation of people wearing their own hair. At the recovery of George III., after his first illness, an immense number of buckles were manufactured; they were spread over the whole kingdom. All the wealth of Walsall was invested in this speculation. The king went to St. Paul's without buckles. Shoe-strings supplied the place of straps, and Walsall was nearly ruined. The disuse of wigs, leather breeches, buckles, and buttons is supposed to have affected the industry of a million of persons.

The *tableau* of the present reign would be incomplete without a slight advertence to the state of religion, which presented different aspects at the beginning and towards the middle and end of the reign of George III. At the former period there was much avowed scepticism both among public characters and public writers of eminence. Dr. Johnson and his satellites of rhetoricians, grammarians, and essayists were pious, but Hume, Gibbon, and other philosophical writers, were known infidels. All metaphysical researches, however, that had a tendency to shake the established faith and morality, were discountenanced after the outbreak of the French revolution. The higher classes, from fear, as well as loyalty to the king, became exemplary in their religious profession; and the faith of their inferiors was cherished by missionary-societies, bible-societies, and tract societies. Either from the same political cause, or from the example and rivalry of the sectaries, the conduct of the established clergy underwent a contemporary change. They became more decorous, more exemplary in morals, and more zealous and active in the discharge of their spiritual duties. They lost, notwithstanding, the populace of the towns; which, however, was partly made up to them by rich dissenters occasionally

deserting their ranks, and joining the church.

Mr. Wilberforce, judging of religion and morality according to his own standard, which was not exactly that of the Protestant Reformation, but more nearly allied to the Reformation subverted, thought both had declined during the war. At Manchester he found church attendance much diminished, particularly in the afternoon. Sunday had become a more frequent travelling-day with merchants. But of another provincial town he says, "The manners of Leeds remarkably frugal, sober, and commercial. None of the merchants spend money, and it would be discreditable to attend public places."—"An increasing evil at Sheffield is, that the apprentices used to live with their masters and be of the family; now their wives are grown too fine ladies to like it." (*Life, by his Sons*, ii. 164.) This was in 1796, and the changes described may be traced to other causes than a decline of piety.

A satisfactory proof of the improved condition of the people is the expansion of the NEWSPAPER PRESS. It was to the multiplication of newspapers, as evidence of augmented wealth and intelligence among the middle ranks, that lord John Russell referred in his elaborate speech on parliamentary reform, April 29, 1822. Newspapers had not only increased in number and circulation, but had enlarged in size, improved in literary management, and in the selection and variety of their contents. In lieu of mere chronicles of occurrences, they had become vast depositories of discussion and information on all questions of public interest and benefit. The practice of pamphlet-writing on ephemeral topics had been almost superseded by them, aided by the disquisitions of the quarterly journals. In the almost illimitable columns of the daily papers was embraced not only domestic and foreign transactions, but the proceedings of the senate, of courts of law and police, and of scientific and literary associations. Considering the rapidity with which newspapers are conveyed to every part of the kingdom, that they find their way into every place of human resort, and are almost universally read, it is hardly possible to overrate their importance in the general diffusion of facts and intelligence. If not another language to mankind, they certainly have been, and must continue to be in a still greater degree, the most efficient of popular instructors. It may be further observed of them, that they have become more independent of influence, both from individuals and the government. During Mr. Pitt's ministry, and till the end of the war, journals were frequently set up and supported



by the Treasury. There was little of this, we apprehend, at the close of the present reign. The leading journals had become great properties, vested in private shareholders, who conducted them on commercial principles, and depended for success and remuneration, like literature generally, on public patronage.

The following statement of the number of newspapers published within the United Kingdom, at three distinct periods, will show the progress of the "fourth estate," as it has been termed, during the last forty years of George III.'s reign:—

	1792.	1790.	1821.
Newspapers published			
in England . . .	50	60	135
Ditto, Scotland. . .	8	27	31
Ditto, Ireland . . .	3	27	56
	61	114	222

	1792.	1790.	1821.
Brought forward . .	61	114	222
Daily, in London . .	9	14	16
Twice a-week, ditto . .	9	7	8
Weekly, ditto . . .	0	11	32
British Islands . . .	0	0	6
	79	146	284

A parliamentary return of 1821 makes the total annual circulation of London newspapers of every description, daily, weekly, twice, and thrice a-week, amount to 15,500,000.

N.B.—The Tables of Prices, of Exports and Imports, of Men of Letters, &c., for the last five years of the present reign, are carried forward to the end of the reign of George IV.

GEORGE IV. A.D. 1820 to 1830.

THE difficulties with which the country had struggled during the first five years of the peace and the last of the Regency continued unabated, so that the new reign commenced unpopularly. Almost one of the first occurrences that marked the accession of George IV. was the discovery, or rather the suppression, of a wild and atrocious plot for the assassination of the king's ministers. The employment of spies in perturbed periods, though sometimes allowable as a needful adjunct of defensive police, is accompanied with serious evils. First, the character of government is depreciated by the co-operation of an unprincipled agency: secondly, the profligate instruments employed have an interest, and mostly pursue it, in fostering, if not absolutely creating, the mischief they are intended to frustrate; and, lastly, the aspect of the times is perplexed, and obscurity thrown over the true origin and extent of public disorders. This was the case with the Cato-street conspiracy. Authorised spies assisted at the orgies of the desperadoes; they encouraged them with blood-money, and there was some difficulty in determining how far the diabolical scheme originated with the myrmidons of the Home Office, in the extreme penury of the conspirators, or in the rankling feelings of revenge left by the unpunished outrage at Manchester, and the recent coercive acts of the legislature. The same dubious features marked the contemporary, but unconnected insurrectionary movement in the south-west of Scotland. The ludicrous rebellion of Bonnymuir—its provisional government, state proclamations, and other accompaniments—being, as subsequently ascertained, chiefly the result of government espionage working on the distresses and ignorance of the population.

The arrival of Queen Caroline absorbed the interest felt by these opening events. Her majesty had been six years absent from England, and for the last twenty-three years had lived apart from her husband. Their union had been of policy, not of choice. Nature had not suited them: dislike ensued, and separation was the consequence. There was no divorce—no legal act of disunion: friendly feelings were preserved up to a certain

point. Their only child was taken from the mother, but occasional interviews allowed. Whispers of misconduct were circulated; so early as 1806 inquiry was instituted, and the result was, that levity was proved and censured,—crime and punishment were neither established nor enforced. Acquittal of guilt only slightly alleviated the irksome position of her royal highness, which was aggravated after the establishment of the regency. The prince declared he would not meet her in public or in private; the effect of which was, to place the princess out of the pale of society. The prince was the fountain of office, honour, and emolument. He was the leader of fashion; his anathema was a social interdict: all who looked forward to preferment or profit, or to mingle in the highest circle, eschewed her company. Under this blighting influence the princess became insulated and neglected. The drawing-room was shut against her. She was not allowed to participate in the honours of her husband. She did not share in the compliments paid to the nation by the kings of Europe. Such was the might of the regent, that even the conquerors of Napoleon shrunk from visiting an illustrious female marked by his displeasure. The literary and philosophical Madame de Staël was no exception to the rest. She interchanged visits with the powerful and prosperous husband, but shunned the humbled and persecuted wife\*. Her associates were mostly like herself, of the unfortunate class, or those who had nothing to hope or fear from the court; poets who did not aspire to the laureatship; and politicians out of place, who found in the princess a convenient substitute for a refractory heir-apparent to the throne†.

Torture has become more refined, but is not extinct. Henry VIII. would have rid himself of a hateful wife by openly sending her to the scaffold. A German prince would have immured her in a dungeon castle. English law did not admit of either application to Caroline of Brunswick, but her lot was hardly less cruel. Her life was made almost a living death by the power of her consort. Meet associates were kept from her. She had neither the enjoyments nor distinctions due to her birth and station. She sought consolation in travel, but persecution followed her steps. She was not informed of her daughter's marriage; the news of her child's death reached her in her exile. At home she was neglected; abroad the same spirit pursued her. If she travelled privately, that circumstance attracted inquiry and observation: if she announced herself, the ambassadors of England were charged not to render her the accustomed honours.

This ubiquity of persecution looked vindictive; it was impolitic as well as unfeeling. If the princess had gone abroad with her acknowledged title, had been received by the representatives of the regent as the wife of their master, being at the same time a person of known levity of character, the strictest watch over her conduct would have been justifiable. The honour of the crown required it. Under the contingency of her living with the future king, of becoming the mother of future monarchs, of being placed at the head of British females, this vigilance would have become a duty; but, long re-

\* Diary of George IV., I. 355.

† "Faction," Mr. Canning said, "marked for its own the princess." The whig investigation of 1806 was private, and acquitted the princess of the main charge of pregnancy. Her confidential advisers at the time were the "outs"—lord Eldon, Mr. Canning, and Mr. Percival. They projected the publication of the proceedings of the "Delicate Investigation," as a mode of ministerial annoyance. *The Book*, as it was called, was secretly printed at Percival's house, but suppressed, though it afterwards got into circulation: the "No popery" cry affording a more effective handle for turning out the Grenville ministry.



jected and disowned, a system of espionage was superfluous insult. However abandoned, the example of the princess could neither be hurtful to English society nor endanger the royal succession. Rumours, however, became prevalent that the princess had selected her own menial for her paramour, enriched and honoured him, and lived with him in open adultery. All this would have been publicly unimportant had it been disregarded, and as the relations that had long subsisted between the royal parties required it should have been. The most hurtful consequence that could result from this illicit connexion was, in all probability, precluded by the age of the princess. But a commission was indiscreetly appointed; ministers were made *officially* acquainted with the alleged irregularities of her royal highness, and they could not well avoid acting on that information. This was the dilemma. On the death of George III. they had no alternative, save either to admit the princess, if she desired it, to all the rights and privileges of British queen, or by a public investigation establish the grounds of their refusal. Caroline's spirit was high and intractable. She had been incensed by the omission of her name in the Liturgy, and by the refusal of due honours at foreign courts. She was indignant at hearing only threats of degradation and exposure; for, owing to causes never satisfactorily explained, her chief professional adviser concealed from her the acceptance by government of his own private, but unauthorised, proposition, made to lord Liverpool before the king's death, for an amicable settlement, till after her determination was irrevocably taken to brave her persecutor, demand a recognition of her rights and the unqualified avowal of her innocence.

The king and ministers believed the queen guilty, and considered themselves bound to refuse her demands: hereupon the parties joined issue. Messages and green bags, containing the criminating evidence, were sent down to either house of parliament, announcing her majesty's arrival in England, and recommending to serious consideration the charges produced against her. The alleged adulterous intercourse, being committed with a foreigner, did not amount to treason; it was not an indictable offence—it was a mere civil injury. Party was already mixed up in the question, and intemperate speeches were delivered in the angry discussions which ensued. In the lords a committee was appointed, but the commons adjourned to allow time for negotiation. The adjournment was renewed from time to time, by which nothing was gained but delay: protocols were interchanged, and conferences held between two of the ministers of the crown and her majesty's legal advisers, upon the avowed understanding, "that nothing should be admitted on the one side, or retracted on the other," which led to the nullity that common sense might have anticipated from a negotiation conducted on such a principle. Other half-measures, of a similar import, were tried by the benevolent or independent party, headed by Mr. Wilberforce in the commons, and were attended with a like failure.

All accommodation proving useless, a secret committee of the lords reported July 4th, 1820, and next day a bill for the degradation of the queen and the dissolution of her marriage with the king was introduced. Her majesty protested against these proceedings at every step, and her counsel were allowed to be heard at the bar. She petitioned for a list of witnesses and of places where the charges of criminal conduct were laid; both these requests were denied. But before the second reading the queen's counsel were heard against the principle of the bill. Their objections were founded on the tendency of the inquiry to corrupt the public morals; on the queen's

right of recrimination; on the unusual course pursued; and they inferred that the whole originated in the king's desire to be at liberty to contract another marriage. Her majesty was occasionally present during the examination of witnesses. Her defence was not entered upon till the 3rd of October, and her witnesses were of a greatly superior class in life to those adduced by the prosecutors. Complaint was made that important foreign witnesses, in support of the queen, were kept back through the influence of the English ministry. The house, with a laudable regard to its character for justice, resolved that proceedings should pause till this ministerial influence was impartially investigated; and the queen's counsel were desired to call witnesses to prove their assertion, which they confessed themselves unable to do. The proceedings anterior to the second reading occupied the house to the 6th November, when a majority of twenty-eight appeared in favour of the bill. This majority was small. Several peers objected to the divorce clause, and on the third reading the majority had dwindled to NINE: upon which lord Liverpool announced that the proceeding was abandoned.

During the inquiry, the house of commons continued its occasional adjournments, and the excitement in that house and out of it, against the progress of the Bill of Degradation, was of the most intense description. The entire country, in truth, was on the verge of rebellion; and, some of the military having caught the popular feeling, the crisis was pregnant with peril. This feeling, however, was in great part irrespective of her majesty's guilt or innocence, which attests the impolicy of the proceeding instituted against her; for, had all the inculpatory charges been established by irrefragable testimony, the general sympathy would have continued unchanged, since it arose not so much from the merits of the case as conviction of her wrongs—that she was the victim of a twenty-five years' persecution—that, however great her delinquencies, they were grievously provoked—and that the man who had shown himself her most powerful and relentless persecutor was the last in his dominions who ought to have cast a stone against his injured spouse.

For the other points connected with the trial of Queen Caroline we must refer to the Chronicle of Occurrences. There are only a few more circumstances connected with this memorable investigation that require notice in this place. Upon the general question of her majesty's guilt or innocence it is unimportant, and would be hardly decorous to entertain, and certainly not express, save one opinion. She was acquitted by her judges and by the grand-jury of the nation, therefore she is entitled to the benefit of that acquittal in the estimate of her contemporaries and of posterity. In explanation of some parts of her conduct this may be adduced: she knew she was watched; and, either from mere wantonness of mischief, or desire to annoy her persecutors, she was constantly laying mine's nests for them; affording pretexts for the scandalous reports which she well knew would be duly transmitted to their employers by the spies with whom she was constantly surrounded. Hence her ostentatious fondness for, and the mysterious adoption of, the children of strangers. Her levity in this respect sometimes went to the extent of assuming the appearance of pregnancy, apparently to alarm her consort with the danger of having imposed upon him a surreptitious heir, and his royal brothers and the princesses with the prospect of a disputed succession to the British monarchy.

Dismissing this part of the subject, let us advert to its political bearings.



The power of the kings of England was strikingly exemplified in the prosecution of the unfortunate Caroline. While regent, the prince had sufficient influence over the aristocracy to surround his consort with social desolation, and force her into an involuntary exile when no criminal charge existed against her—when she had, in fact, been acquitted, after a solemn investigation, conducted by lords Grenville, Spencer, Erskine, and Ellenborough. After her return to England, in 1820, the charges against the queen were more weighty than in 1806, but, owing to her age, of less constitutional importance, yet the king could still find supple instruments to continue his vindictive persecution. Except George IV. himself, and the major portion of the royal family, there were few who did not commiserate the queen's situation, and contemplate her trial as a hardship to herself and a calamity to the nation. The ministers unwillingly lent themselves to the king's vengeance rather than endanger their places: their fears, however, were groundless. In the existing state of popular excitement successors could not have been found to carry on the persecution. But the king is alleged to have practised a stratagem on his servants. He threatened to dismiss them unless they executed his odious task, and call to his aid other advisers without imposing upon his new councillors the hateful obligation. Rather than be superseded, they brought forward their bill of pains and penalties. Their position was not exempt from difficulty. Their first indiscretion consisted in commencing hostilities against the queen by the omission of her name in the Liturgy, and thereby provoking her claim to regal rights. That done, only three courses were open, either to admit the queen's claim, which was hardly justifiable with the evidence they possessed against her; resign their places; or bring her to trial. They adopted the last, which, if not the most politic, was an undisguised proceeding.

The conduct of the Whigs pending the investigation was honourable and disinterested. There were only a few who sought to make the juncture subservient to ambition, but, as a body, they did not espouse either side. Some of them were obviously staggered by the strong, though incredible, evidence of grossness adduced against her majesty, while others warmly espoused her cause on the same chivalrous grounds that mainly influenced the national judgment.

It is a common attribute of historical occurrences that those possessing great ephemeral have little enduring interest; while, on the other hand, those which comparatively obtain little attention from contemporaries often swell into vast importance to the next generation. The former was peculiarly the case with the queen's trial. It was the leading, as it was by far the most exciting, event of the present reign, yet it is now fast hastening into oblivion, and, along with it, the heated, and, measured by the occasion, the disproportionate ebullition that accompanied it. Had this celebrated conubial dispute related to private individuals, it would have been long since deservedly forgotten; and, viewed in reference to the high personages it concerned, it appears only one of those ordinary matrimonial disagreements so frequently adjudicated in Doctors' Commons, arising out of personal dislike, incompatible tempers, or late marriages anticipated by earlier attachments.

The king rapidly regained his popularity. On opening the parliamentary session of 1821 he mentioned the queen by name, and recommended to the house of commons a provision for her maintenance. This provision her majesty at first refused, unless her name were placed in the Liturgy; but subsequently altered her determination, and accepted an annuity of

50,000%. She was not, however, allowed to share in the coronation, that was celebrated in the summer with unusual splendour. Her exclusion from the ceremony, though, with her wonted spirit, she attended personally to assert her right to be present, did not elicit any strong expression of public discontent, and clearly showed that the disposition to continue the previous excitement in her favour had subsided. Her death, about three weeks after, terminated her misfortunes. The suddenness of her dissolution revived general sympathy, which was tumultuously expressed at her funeral, and there were few who did not lament the untimely end of an illustrious female, whose noble and generous qualities, had they been favoured by a more suitable education and marriage, would have made her the delight and ornament of her exalted station. The king at the time was making his noisy and transitory visit to Ireland, under the laudable but Quixotic impression that his royal presence would mollify the factious spirit and alleviate the chronic maladies of that distracted kingdom.

Contemporary events abroad presented a flattering but illusive aspect. In 1820 the Spanish military, under the influence of Riego and other gallant officers, and encouraged by the discontents of the middle ranks, revolted against the despotism of Ferdinand, and succeeded in establishing a constitution whose chief defects were the premature disregard of popular prejudices and the risks of anarchy. Portugal followed the example of Spain. Besides suffering the evils which arise from an ill-organised government and non-resident sovereign, she had for many years been reduced to the situation of a mere dependency on Brazil. The revolutionary movement began at Oporto, and speedily extended to Lisbon, where it was consummated, after an unsuccessful effort of marshal Beresford and the royalists to arrest its progress. In Naples the Spanish constitution found imitators not less zealous than in Portugal. The desire for a representative government had long existed in the south of Italy among the intelligent and middling classes of society. It was fostered and diffused by the activity of the Carbonari and other political associations. Hopeless of obtaining their object from the spontaneous grace of their sovereign, and encouraged by the example of Spain to confide in the efficacy of their own endeavours, the Neapolitans determined on insurrection, in which the army, headed by generals Pepe and Carascosa, was induced to co-operate. Deserted by the military, the king had no alternative save acquiescence: all existing political institutions were abolished, the Spanish constitution adopted, and Ferdinand and his son pledged their royal faith to its observance. The flame did not stop here, but early in 1821 burst out in Piedmont. Victor Emmanuel, rather than accept the Spanish constitution dictated to him by a union of citizens, soldiers, and students, directed by Santa Rosa and Lescio, resigned his crown, leaving prince Carignano regent of the kingdom, who, with the view of gaining time, and more effectually serving the royal cause, placed himself at the head of the insurgents. Even the provinces of the Turkish empire did not escape the fervor of constitutional movements. In Moldavia and Wallachia an insurrection broke out against the Porte, fomented by prince Ypsilanti, a retainer of the Russian court, and which, by extending into the Morea, or ancient Peloponnesus, became, after a long struggle, the issue of which was delayed by intestine divisions—the natural concomitant of political revolutions—the foundation of the independence of Greece.

Except the establishment of Grecian independence and the severance of Brazil from Portugal, and its erection into an independent state, the stir-



ring events of 1820-1 had no abiding results. The mass of the population were unprepared for regeneration. They were ready enough to join in fêtes and diversions, for they were agreeable to usage and their taste, but they had neither the disposition, the principles, nor the habits that interest men in political changes. It was only the minority of the adventurous and enlightened that co-operated in the revolutions: the peasantry and the populace remained quiescent, and continued—what they had been for centuries—the passive slaves of events. They did not oppose the revolutions, neither did they oppose their suppression. That the changes in the Peninsula and in Italy were not altogether premature is attested by the fact that the insurrectionists were able to overturn the old authorities, to establish new institutions, which they would have maintained, despite of their errors, had not external forces interfered. They were the paramount authority among themselves, but were unable to resist a coalition of foreign despots. For this a physical power was requisite; that could only be organised by a union of all classes, and a national enthusiasm the patriots failed to evoke. In consequence they were overwhelmed by foreigners. Naples and Piedmont were successively overrun by the armies of Austria. They encountered hardly any resistance. The former governments were restored, and, the better to guard against reaction, the fortresses and large towns were occupied by the invaders till the elements of the late risings had been dispersed, or made powerless by executions, confiscation, exile, and imprisonment. The fate of Spain was deferred two years longer. But consultations were held by the great powers, and the overthrow of the constitutional system determined upon at the congress of Verona, held at the close of 1822. Meanwhile the French were silently collecting a military force on the Pyrenees; first under the pretext of a *sanitary cordon*, next as an army of observation, and lastly, in the spring of 1823, the mask being thrown aside, they crossed the Bidassoa. In five months they penetrated to Cadiz, dispersed the cortes, and restored the despotism of Ferdinand. A simultaneous movement was organised in Portugal. Encouraged by the near approach of the French to the frontier, the royalists exerted themselves, succeeded in bringing over to their party some regiments stationed in Lisbon, and, aided by the queen and prince Miguel, re-established, contrary to his own inclination and protest, the king in absolute authority.

Such were the issues of the continental revolutions. Their progress was arrested by the forcible intervention of foreign powers, confederated under the denomination of the HOLY ALLIANCE. This celebrated league forms a remarkable feature in European history, and merits elucidation. It was established immediately after the overthrow of Napoleon, and grew out of the subversive principles of the French revolution. Russia, Austria, and Prussia were the leading confederates. England was solicited to join the compact, but George IV. declined on constitutional grounds, contenting himself with a tacit approval of its objects. These objects were laudable, so far as avowed, and as the avowed objects mostly are of every undertaking. They professed to go no further than the enforcement of practical Christianity, and the government of nations agreeably to the Christian doctrine. Their practices interpreted differently their designs, which appeared directed solely to the conservation, however replete with abuses, of existing governments, especially monarchical institutions. They claimed to derive all power from God. They denounced all political changes, not emanating from themselves, as infringements of their divine vicegerency. They met periodically to determine the liberties of nations: at the cities where

they assembled no strangers were allowed to remain; nor was a secretary or reporter permitted to be present during their discussions, lest he should divulge their mysterious proceedings; but they usually terminated with the promulgation of a manifesto darkly expository of their views and intentions. Royal congresses of this character were successively held at Troppau, at Laybach, and Verona. To Laybach Ferdinand of Naples was summoned to hear the fiat of the crowned heads, whether he should be a constitutional or absolute king. They declared in favour of the latter, and forthwith he was restored by Austrian bayonets, despite of his oath and the wishes of his subjects. The same high tribunal decreed the re-establishment of the Sardinian despotism. At Spain there was some demur, but finally the subversion of her constitution was resolved on, and France, or at least her ultra ministers, became the ready executive instruments of absolutism in the Peninsula.

The triumph of the French beyond the Pyrenees, though unjustly and treacherously achieved, was not unaccompanied with benefits to the world. It completed the separation between Spain and her late colonies; and the fears of European interference checked the tendency to disunion among the infant states of South America. A still more important consequence of French aggression was, its eliciting from England a prompt declaration of her intended policy towards the transatlantic powers. That policy consisted in opening commercial relations with them, towards the close of 1823, by the appointment of consuls in Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Chili, and Buenos Ayres, and the declaration by Mr. Secretary Canning to the French government, that England would not interfere with Spain in any attempt to reconquer her late colonies, but she "would not permit any *third power* to attack them, or reconquer them for her\*." This was extremely unpalatable to the holy allies, whose leading aim was the entire restoration of the ancient system, even to the subjection of Greece to Ottoman domination; so far as that system did not impose sacrifices on themselves: as, for example, by the re-establishment of the kingdom of Poland. In this policy England had, under the foreign secretaryship of the marquis of Londonderry, tacitly acquiesced; and it was only about the period of the suicide of that nobleman she began to exhibit symptoms of jealousy at continental dictatorship. At the congress of Verona she openly dissented from the councils of the confederacy, and her ministers protested against the right of the confederates to meddle in the internal affairs of the Peninsula. Britain being dissentient was fatal to the efficiency, if not to the existence, of the regal combination; for by her might she could always impede, if not frustrate, their proceedings. The despots of the continent might thenceforward continue to announce, in circulars penned by Messrs. Gentz and Metternich, their mystical axioms of oppression, but the nations were aware that England had ceased to be either a sleeping or active partner in the firm, and she would neither co-operate in their plans, nor sanction their anti-progressive doctrines.

Coeval with this change in foreign policy was the adoption at home of a more liberal system of internal legislation. To legal reforms, financial economy, commercial and industrial freedom, public intelligence had long pointed, and these domestic ameliorations, not involving constitutional changes, were favourably listened to by ministers and their newly-incorporated allies, the Grenvilles. The times, too, had become auspicious. Symptoms of returning prosperity began to beam with a steady light on

\* Annual Register, lxiii. 146.



the horizon. From the peace, up to 1823, the country had suffered in different degrees the evils of transition. Trade had been dull, fluctuating, or embarrassed; agriculture hardly remunerative, and the landowners, burdened with mortgages and settlements contracted during the intoxication of the war, in a depreciated currency, could with difficulty submit to the reduction in rents the impoverished state of their tenants required. The consequences were loud complaints and desperate projects of relief. The abolition of tithes and sale of church property were talked of at county-meetings: the sequestration of the crown-lands, the reduction of the interest of the national debt, or its equivalent, a copious issue of paper money, were also expedients commonly mooted and favourably listened to. During the adverse circumstances of the people these suggestions were favourably received, but, the difficulties of the country surmounted, they were neglected or forgotten. Abundant employment for capital and industry, advancing prices, plenty of money, and boundless private credit, spread general contentment, hilarity, and an inordinate spirit of commercial enterprise.

The absence of political excitement since the Queen's Trial had been remarkable. The WHIGS kept up, with an eagerness abated by the apparent remoteness of the object, the old feud with their opponents for power, but, unsupported by the masses, they could not effectively interfere with the crown in the choice of its servants. Radicalism had severed from them their popular allies, and they assumed the name, given them by one of their leaders (Mr. Tierney), of "His Majesty's Opposition," as more significant of their altered position. Their differences with the ministerialists were rather in degree than in principle. To the maintenance of established institutions in Church and State both were steadfastly devoted; but, though the whigs uniformly disowned the subversive doctrines of the radicals, they justly claimed to themselves the credit of having marshalled the way to the tories of a liberal commercial system; of a conciliatory policy towards Ireland; judicial, legal, and fiscal reforms; the suppression of monopolies; and the recognition of the nationality of the South American colonies.

In the dearth of party contention, the debates of parliament were mostly of a pacific character. They referred more to economical, legal, or commercial, than constitutional or political topics. Occasionally there were grand debates on foreign policy, catholic emancipation, the disfranchisement of corrupt boroughs, the influence of the crown and its secret revenues; but the staple and most interesting subjects of sessional discussion were agricultural distress, the currency and the Bank of England, the navigation laws, the laws relative to combinations of workmen, the silk-trade, commutation of Irish tithes, constitution of juries, and the punishment and reform of criminals. Ireland obtained a large portion of legislative attention, especially after the grievous famine of 1822; and in 1824-5 a searching inquiry was instituted, by a committee of the house of lords, into its social state and natural capabilities. Another subject efficiently pursued early in the king's reign was RETRENCHMENT in the public expenditure. Ministers were loth to return to a peace establishment in the army, navy, or public offices. During the waste and negligence of the war sinecures, pensions, and overpaid places had multiplied enormously. The whigs at intervals assaulted these abuses; but, from want of zeal or timidity, their attacks were limited to insulated excrescences, such as the supernumerary lords of the admiralty, an extra postmaster-general, or lieutenant-general of the ordnance. At length this unbeaten field was entered

upon in good earnest ; first by sir Henry Parnell\*, and afterwards by Mr. Joseph Hume, a Scotch member of great shrewdness, practical sense, and indomitable perseverance, which no official artifice could exhaust or baffle. Mr. Hume began his labours in 1821 ; he continued them in succeeding sessions with extraordinary resolution and ability, despite of the jeers of Canning, the ribaldry of Croker, and the solemn indignation of Huskisson ; and, supported by the public voice, the honest and independent members of both parties, and not unfrequently sheltered from the missiles of his assailants by the protecting ægis of Henry Brougham's matchless eloquence, important economical reforms resulted from his exertions.

The great MERCANTILE CRISIS of 1825-6 forms an epoch in the commercial history of this reign. It had its origin in the prosperity of the antecedent years, which prosperity was indicated by the low rate of interest, and a boundless spirit of speculation in foreign loans, mining adventures in South America, and joint-stock schemes of every imaginable description for the employment of capital. Excess of riches produced general recklessness in the application of them ; and this redundancy was augmented by the profuse issues and advances of the Bank of England and country banks, combined with an inconsiderate extension of credit and confidence among individuals. The result was a very disastrous reaction, which long weighed on the energies and industry of the community. Before the revulsion, and in the absence of political excitement, the public mind had taken a very gratifying impulse. Instead of the abundance of peace being accompanied with licentiousness, as in former reigns, the people converted the advantages of their situation to moral and intellectual improvements. At no former period had there been manifested so general a desire for information ; a desire, too, not limited to any particular class, but extending to all classes of society. The more opulent formed themselves into philosophical and literary societies ; while the working people established mechanic, apprentice, and gymnastic institutions for mutual benefit and instruction. A new university was projected in the metropolis for the accommodation of the middle ranks of society. Cheap publications for disseminating useful knowledge were issued in incredible numbers ; and, both soil and seed being favourable, it was impossible to anticipate other, had not the mercantile crisis intervened, than a rich harvest of social advantages.

In 1827 there were symptoms, though feeble ones, of returning prosperity. That year is also memorable for the termination of the PREMIERSHIP of the earl of Liverpool. His ministry had been long but not brilliant. Its chief characteristic was inertness. Instead of an impulse, it had been a drag on the advancing intelligence of the community ; and the few and inefficient public reforms which had been carried during the twelve years that had elapsed since the peace, had been reluctantly conceded by the narrow and timid spirit of his administration. Moreover, his government had become weak, partly from the mutual jealousies of its members of superiority, and partly from a division of sentiment on the catholic question. On this they had agreed to differ ; a principle of co-operation often more convenient to the parties than conducive to efficiency or integrity of purpose. The short-lived ministry of Mr. Canning succeeded, after some curious incidents, which are detailed in the occurrences of the period. It was formed by a union with a large section of the whigs under the marquis of Lansdowne, who seasonably

\* Financial Resolutions moved by Sir Henry Parnell, July 1st, 1819. Having no party object, these elaborate, economical propositions obtained little notice from the great parliamentary leaders ; the debates were thinly attended, and on one occasion (*Hansard's Parl. Debates*, xl, 1559,) the house counted out !



lent their aid to the new premier, abruptly deserted by his former coadjutors, on the ground that his general policy accorded with that the Opposition had for years past supported and recommended. Earl Grey was not a party to the coalition, which those who were defended as a means of averting the establishment of an illiberal administration, and of forwarding those measures of public amendment upon which the whigs had prided themselves, and which had not been compromised; neither would the introduction of them be delayed in consequence of their new alliance\*. The death of Mr. Canning, four months after his elevation, did not dissolve the cabinet. Viscount Goderich succeeded him, and Mr. Herries became chancellor of the exchequer. The last appointment became a source of misunderstandings, which lord Goderich being unable or unwilling to reconcile, his ministry expired almost in its birth, towards the close of the year.

The formation of the WELLINGTON MINISTRY was the commencement, in 1828, of a new era. Civil disqualifications on account of religious differences had been too long maintained. They may have been defensible securities in the infancy of a protestant constitution, but had ceased to be expedient. Dissent was no longer a type of political discontent; nor catholicism, of a divided allegiance. The dissenters were loyal; they had become a numerous, opulent, and intelligent body; and the catholics had publicly disclaimed those dogmas which rendered them unsafe subjects of a protestant state. No solid pretext remained for the exclusion of either from their civil franchises. It was unprofitable injustice, as well as fraught with danger to the empire. It was a source of weakness in war, and of internal divisions and divided councils in peace. Ministry after ministry had fallen to pieces solely on this account. An efficient and united administration could not be formed, because men of ability and patriotism would not be parties to an obsolete system of intolerance. The legislative suffered as well as the executive. Its time was wasted: every year the subject was laboriously discussed, and every year produced the same mortifying nullity. Parliament became more like an ecclesiastical convocation, occupied in the profitless controversies of theology, than a lay assembly delegated to promote the temporal interests of the nation.

The policy of concession was not a new policy. It was the policy of the last reign, and was only interrupted by the French revolution. It began in 1778, by giving to Irish papists the rights of inheritance and of property, and absolving them from imprisonment for life for keeping schoolst. In 1791 there were important concessions†. The oaths and declarations of catholics were modified; their places of worship and schools for education were tolerated, and they were permitted to practise the law. Two years after, the army and navy in Ireland were thrown open to papists, and they were enabled to vote at parliamentary elections§. Subsequent to the Union, and during the regency, nothing was done for them, save an act of 1817, which placed English catholics on a level with the Irish in respect of admission to offices in the army and navy.

During the Canning and Goderich ministries the catholics indulged hopes of further ameliorations, which were entirely extinguished by the formation of that of the duke of Wellington. His grace was a tory and anti-catholic. Liberality was supposed to be alien to his nature; force

\* Marquis of Lansdowne, House of Lords, May 2, 1827.

† Irish Act, 18 Geo. III., c. 60.

‡ 31 Geo. III., c. 32. § Irish Act, 33 Geo. III.

and arbitrariness his sole weapons of domination. He was feared as well as generally disliked. All this, however, resulted from imperfect knowledge of the real character of the minister—his sterling good sense and ardent zeal for the public welfare. Past events had shown the mischief of an exclusive policy, its disturbing and weakening effect on the imperial government, and the danger of dismemberment with which it threatened the United Kingdom. Resolved to obviate these evils, the duke, with his wonted energy and promptitude, determined on a new course. The task was herculean, but masterly executed.

The first session of the duke's ministry was signalised by the adoption of lord John Russell's bill for the repeal of the Test and Corporation Acts, by which municipal corporations and offices of power and trust were thrown open to the dissenters. An efficient finance committee was appointed on the motion of Mr. Peel, and the first fruit of whose labours was the stopping a lavish waste of public money in the granting of life-annuities, founded on erroneous calculations of human longevity. Next followed commissions to inquire into the state of the common law, and the law of real property. These resulted from the luminous parliamentary exposition of legal defects and institutions by Mr. Brougham. An act to prohibit the circulation of Scotch small notes in England; and a corn-bill, in the main agreeing with that rejected in the preceding year, but rather more favourable to the agriculturist, concluded, in July, the important sessional business of 1828.

Meanwhile Ireland presented an extraordinary spectacle. To affirm she was on the verge of civil war was merely to reiterate what had been commonly alleged of her situation for the last half-century. She exhibited symptoms more alarming and unmanageable than actual rebellion. By a novel species of agitation, carried on by itinerant orators, who with the zeal of missionaries set forth the wrongs of their country, but who constantly deprecated illegal violence in seeking redress for them—who themselves cautiously kept within the bounds of the law—the Catholic Association had obtained almost the entire control of the population. They ordered a census of the people, levied tribute under the name of "rent," and assumed to be in every respect the representatives of the wishes and grievances of Ireland. A new source of authority was discovered by them in the forty-shilling freeholders. These had been mostly created by the landlords for political purposes. Under the influence of their priests they deserted their former masters, and submitted to the guidance of the catholic leaders. A new election for Clare afforded an unequivocal test of their power. Their great leader, Daniel O'Connell, stood for the county upon the strength of his right, and a new construction of existing statutes. He was returned by a large majority, and the ministerial candidate, supported by almost the whole of the landed gentry, defeated. In the event of a dissolution, the catholics boasted they could return, by the aid of the "*forties*," seventy members to parliament, pledged to oppose every measure of ministers till emancipation was granted. Against a power like this it was impossible to govern Ireland. The Orange societies and Brunswick clubs were revived by way of counteraction; but the contest was now one of opinion, not of physical force. A series of conversions rapidly followed this new aspect of Irish affairs. A brother-in-law of Mr. Secretary Peel was the first to avow his altered sentiments. Next followed the publication of a private letter of the premier, in which he expressed himself favourable to a settlement of the catholic question. Even the lord-lieutenant was con-



vinced of the necessity of concession, and went so far as to encourage perseverance in the peaceful agitation scheme that had wrought such wonders.

Parliament met early in 1829. The opening speech disclosed the new policy forced on government. The Catholic Association was to be suppressed, the forty-shilling freeholders disfranchised, but catholic disabilities were to be removed. Necessity, not choice, had conquered. Still praise is due to the vanquished as well as the victors. They achieved the greatest of triumphs in conquering themselves, in surrendering to the common good inveterate and long-cherished sentiments. The king, the ministry, the church, and the aristocracy, were opposed to catholic emancipation, but controlled by imperative circumstances, directed by the energies of the prime minister.

Such an unexpected revulsion in public policy forms an instance of the little prescience of the wisest in political occurrences, and of the inappreciable causes by which they are produced. Sternness, inflexibility, coerciveness, and a decided hostility to change, were the prominent manifestations anticipated from the Wellington administration. Contrary to these forebodings, it proved almost effeminate in its course, and certainly more conciliatory and promptly liberal in its concessions than any that ever governed the kingdom. The forty-shilling freeholders formed another anomaly of the time. They had been created as mere instruments of servility, for the perpetuation of the ascendancy of their landlords. They were considered so little worth that Mr. O'Connell actually gave them up—consented to their disfranchisement—in 1825: yet this despised order of freeholders proved, if not the saviours of the country, a very potent instrument in its regeneration.

There is one mode of solving a part of these paradoxes. It is often the interest of men that their present conduct should belie their previous reputation. This is peculiarly the case with political bodies, whose power depends on their popularity. Secure of the support of their own adherents, they seek to neutralise opposition by concession, and to strengthen themselves, by making converts in the ranks of their enemies, through the adoption of their measures and opinions. It thus happens that a tory ministry, whose authority is precarious, will often incline to a whig policy, and *vice versa*.

The remaining events of the present reign are not so important as to require notice further than that devoted to them in the Chronicle. Dropsy, which in the last three years had carried off the duke of York and the princess royal of England, terminated, in June, 1830, the protracted sufferings of the king. The seclusion in which his majesty had latterly lived was commonly ascribed to misanthropy, but arose from bodily infirmities that it was thought politic to conceal, and which rendered his appearance in public or even in private society irksome and distressing. Charity and beneficence continued to the last prominent traits in the conduct of George IV.

The transplanting of the Brunswick princes to England was favourable to their improvement. George I. was thoroughly German: he was too old on his accession to the British throne, and his reign too brief, to admit of his outgrowing in any sensible degree his native habits and acquirements. The reign of George II. was much longer than that of his predecessor, and his character superior; but, either from want of taste or aptitude, he hardly assimilated nearer than the grade of yeoman to the national standard of cultivation. George III. attained the rank of a respectable English squire,

though greatly inferior to his successor in social polish and refinement. While the Hanover electors continued aliens in origin, language, and manners, it is not surprising that their prerogatives were contested, and their supremacy grudgingly admitted by the aristocracy. They were felt to be, and in truth they were, little more than the elected servants of the nobility; morally and intellectually their inferiors; hardly even in pecuniary revenue equalling many of the English lords. Much of this competitive equality disappeared in the former and entirely in the present reign. George IV. entered the lists under highly favourable circumstances. His path had been ably pioneered for him by his predecessor. Possessed of a magnificent civil-list, a princely education, richly endowed by nature, he might, independently of his illustrious descent and royal inheritance, fearlessly compete with his loftiest peers in all the pretensions on which aristocracy prides itself.

While prince of Wales, George IV. was mostly popular. Handsome in person, elegant in manners, free, joyous, a clever mimic and vocalist, racy, and amusing in conversation, he possessed the exterior embellishments that mostly win general favour, and made him the idol of the world of fashion, and, in no small degree, of the populace. It was creditable to his taste that he early attached himself to the brilliant, though rather dissolute, circle of Fox, Burke, and Sheridan. He was the votary of pleasure, of that epicurean description which unites wit and elegance with great license, and renders the intellect itself handmaid to luxurious self-indulgence. Though so far a voluptuary, habitual grossness cannot be imputed to him. His connexions with women were mostly of a kind that combined other and more refined attractions than those of sensuality, and of which the selection of his first mistress, the accomplished but vain Mary Robinson, and subsequently of the exemplary Mrs. Fitzherbert, are satisfactory instances. The existence of one legitimate daughter, and no natural offspring, negates the assumption of a very indiscriminate sexual intercourse.

George IV. had the characteristic courage of his family. "No man," said the duke of Wellington, "can intimidate the king." He had the firmness, with less of the obstinacy of his father. This is shown by the mode in which his acquiescence was obtained to the Catholic Relief Bill, against which he had to surrender prepossessions hardly less strong than those of George III. He submitted to the marital choice of the princess Charlotte, though prince Leopold was disagreeable to him, and though he had, by previous arrangement, betrothed her to the prince of Orange; but he was unwilling to control his daughter in a matter in which she was chiefly interested, especially after the lesson of practical wisdom afforded by his own unhappy marriage, having been degraded into a mere pecuniary contract and state contrivance. His secession from the Opposition, in 1793, implied neither caprice nor dereliction of principle, accompanied as he was by distinguished names to whom the public were accustomed, in doubtful emergencies, to look up for guidance and authority. He always manifested a wish to be reunited to his early friends, but not to submit to fastidious and imperious dictation. Such a disposition was apparent on the subsidence of the alarm occasioned by the French revolution, on the establishment of the regency, on the death of Mr. Perceval, and again on the formation of the coalition ministries of Mr. Canning and of lord Goderich; both of which he steadily supported in defiance of a powerful confederacy of the aristocracy.

The present reign was more free than the former from constitutional encroachments. The coercive acts of the regency were temporary expedients to meet a temporary emergency, and not settled features of the king's go-



vernment. He gave a tacit approval to the professions of the Holy Alliance, which were Christian; but when their practices appeared inconsistent with their declared principles he opposed no obstacle to a public disavowal of all participation in their despotic schemes. George IV. was well content with the established prerogatives of the monarchy. He did not, like his predecessor, circulate private notes among his hereditary councillors, to intimidate or influence them in the free exercise of their legislative functions. Neither was *favouritism* remarkably predominant. Mr. Sheridan at one time appeared to exercise a private ascendancy at Carlton-house. He was well suited to the vocation, and would have been proud of it; but, if he exercised a covert authority, it was only for a short period, and he was not, as his after life attested, very munificently rewarded. The Hertfords, earl Moira, colonel Mahon, sir Benjamin Bloomfield, and sir William Knighton, have been successively charged with the office of court minion. The influence exercised by the last, in his situation of private secretary, and which was probably as great as that of any of his predecessors, has been partly unveiled in his *Memoirs*, and seems, contrary to expectation, to have had as great a reference to spiritual as temporal affairs. George IV. was too clever a man—for cleverness is generally conceded to him, he was too acute and penetrating, and had too morbid a sensibility to personal encroachments, slavishly to subject himself to individual influences. Besides, it was incompatible with his nature. It has been, with more truth than gallantry, said of him, that he had a “woman’s character;” fickle, quickly suspicious, and the creature of impulse, rather than reason. He had, notwithstanding, the sagacity, like his father, to use men in their sphere, and for his purpose, but not much further.

Although not the passive instrument of either man or woman, it cannot be supposed that the king was entirely free from the common lot of princes, every one of whom is said to be governed either by his physician, his mistress, or confessor. There were about him, as well as other monarchs, secret and irresponsible influences. It is easy to perceive, from the partial disclosures of sir Wm. Knighton’s *Memoirs*, that, though Liverpool, Wellington, and other premiers, had the drudgery and accountability of the government, the sunshine of the court, its choicest gifts, and confidence, passed through the channel of the privy purse; and of this novel and somewhat unconstitutional course of royal favour, those who sought it were not slow to avail themselves. For the last keeper of the privy purse the king seems to have had a sincere and affectionate regard. His presence was almost indispensable to his existence. His friendship, however, might have proved like his heart—“Irish;” intense, vehement, and tumultuous, but evanescent. The attachment the king manifested towards Knighton, Canning, and men of a like civil grade, and the countenance he afforded them, refutes the common imputation of regal *morgue* and exclusiveness. It shows that, when the king found a man he delighted to honour, he had the manliness to do so, regardless of his humble birth or absence of aristocratic associations.

It has been said that the king’s education was “princely;” such it appears to have been. It lacked nothing of the routine of instruction commonly appropriated to royal and noble personages. His chief teachers, Drs. Markham, Jackson, and Hurd, were embryo bishops, or church dignitaries, and of course theology had a due share of attention; and what was not theological or ecclesiastical was ornamental or scholastic. Possessing superior natural abilities, a retentive memory, quick and lively parts, a

ready wit, correct taste, especially in the fine arts, for which his excellent ear and eye qualified him, with good elocutionary powers, the prince did credit to the limited sphere of tuition embraced by his tutors, and proved equal to the average of his courtiers in his knowledge of the classics, modern languages, constitutional law, and general acquirements. There was, however, it has been justly observed, no provision for scientific instruction in morals, legislation, the structure of governments, and natural philosophy. All that appertained to the drawing-room or the ball-room, the Liturgy, or the merely operative duties of the throne, the king was master of; but he was unversed in the higher requisites of the regal office—in those principles on which true national happiness depends; and which defect of early culture was the more to be lamented in George IV., as he was unquestionably animated by a desire, to the extent of his knowledge and ability, to promote the general welfare.

It is an advantage to a prince whose education has been neglected that the British monarchy is of a plastic nature—that its executive powers are adapted to age or adolescence—to the imbecile or masculine mind; in short, to every uncertainty of character and intelligence to which hereditary descent is liable. A child or a philosopher may be the sovereign of England. There is a permanent regency provided by the constitution for every casualty. Political responsibility only is varied, and the advantage at first sight appears in favour of an incompetent chief magistrate; for, if the king is efficient and active in the discharge of his duties, he exercises great powers without liability—he *can do no wrong*; whereas, in the case of an incapable monarch, the delegated authority necessarily devolving in name and reality upon his ministers, they exercise power, both in law and reason, under a veritable accountability to the nation for their administration.

One charge has been made against the character of George IV. of a very serious import. His *personal veracity* has been impugned. This, if true, not only denudes him of the distinction which sycophancy had assigned to him, of being “the first gentleman in Europe,” but of all claim to gentility whatever. It is founded on his solemn abnegation, on the sacred honour of a prince, of his marriage, either “legally or otherwise,” with Mrs. Fitzherbert. That this denial was untrue is now incontestably established on the testimony of lord Stourton\*. It was solely on matrimonial terms that this conscientious lady would consent to a union with the prince; and a marriage was solemnized, not in a foreign dominion, as commonly supposed, and which would have made it invalid, according to the discipline of the catholic church, but in this country, in Mrs. Fitzherbert’s “own drawing-room, in her house in town, in the presence of an officiating protestant clergyman and two of her own nearest relatives.” Legally the marriage was void by the act of the late king; or, if a marriage, by an anterior statute, the Act of Settlement, the prince, by marrying a papist, forfeited all claim of succession to the crown. It is doubtless on the legal nullity of the marriage that the prince authorised the disavowal of it by Mr. Fox and his other whig compurgators. Mental reservation was practised; he was married, but not legally married: a Jesuitical evasion that would have been more passable had the bridegroom, as well as the bride, in lieu of a protestant prince, been in communion with the indulgent see of Rome. However, married or not, it was an unusually convenient union. Both parties were accommodated by it: the pious scruples of the

\* Edinburgh Review, cxxxvi. 556.



lady were soothed, the gentleman's passion gratified; and, by the ready *double entendre* of disavowal, the way for the payment of his debts smoothed; those debts which had doubtless partly accumulated from the magnificent bridal presents that showered on the betrothed immediately after the celebration of the hybrid nuptials, which one side construed into mere concubinage, the other into virtuous wedlock\*.

Princes are only men, and require, like their subjects, the established salvos for human frailties. In considering the temptations to which they have yielded, we ought to allow for those they have successfully resisted. George IV., from the incidental advantages of station and person, might claim more than an average per-centage of this moral drawback. From the long absence of wholesome occupation—for he was an old man when he became regent—he became indolent, restless, and effeminate; absorbed in trifles—the coxcombrty of dress and etiquette; or if anything better intervened, the luxury of novels, plays, paintings, or architecture. He was a man of pleasure; business was distasteful to him; and too exclusively devoted to personal indulgence, it produced the common results of sensual attachments, self-engrossment, aversion to connubial and domestic ties, alienation from noble objects, and debasing habits of profusion and intemperance. Such, in brief, was the king: the good qualities nature had implanted were overpowered by the seductive lures of his exalted position. His biography is mean; it is unadorned by the pursuit or attainment of any great end. The vices of adolescence were not redeemed by the splendour of his meridian years. Through life he was only a grand-master of ceremonies. His prosecution of the princess Caroline was spiteful and vindictive. He was a vain man, especially of the rank of his family, an insult to which he never forgave. He was proud; very jealous of familiarity; and, if any were seduced into it by an ostentatious condescension, he suddenly turned upon them with an assumption of offended dignity. Servility formed the ready currency to royal favour, from both his menials and ministers. His passions were strong—their victims several. His idea of pleasure was sensual, notwithstanding the refinement of his mind. He indulged in the luxuries of the table; was fond of wine, music, and horse-racing. He was a spendthrift, careless of exceeding his income, and an evil example to his subjects as economist and husband. His tastes were magnificent, but costly to the nation. They were Eastern—glittering, fantastic, and showy, but profitless. Indolence and enjoyment were his idols. Everything around him breathed softness, richness, and repose. These are the more unfavourable traits. He was kind and affable to those about his person; he was benevolent. His charity was without ostentation; his religion without fanaticism. In elegant accomplishments he has been rarely equalled; in personal graces never excelled. He was lively and good-humoured in society; cheerful and warm-hearted at home. He was the very *Comus* of mirth in early life. Wherever there was gaiety—wherever “Sport leaped up to seize her beechen bough”—wherever there was a festive assembly of the people—there was the prince. It was only when oppressed with the infirmities of

\* Three memorable denials of royal personages are on record, which severely tried the faith of contemporaries. First there is the written denial, in 1787, of the marriage of the prince of Wales with Mrs. Fitzherbert. Secondly, the denial by the duke of York, in his letter addressed to the speaker of the house of commons, dated Feb. 23rd, 1809, “not only of all personal participation but the slightest knowledge of the abuses” carried on in the army by Mary Anne Clarke. (*Belsh. History of George III.*, xiii. 322.) Lastly, Queen Caroline, in a memorial addressed to the house of lords, on the day following the second reading of the Bill of Degradation against her, “most deliberately and before God asserted that she was wholly innocent of the crime laid to her charge.”

age, or the premature effects of the Circean cup he had freely quaffed, that George IV. became morose, selfish, recluse, and irritable.

The intellectual impulse of the last reign continued with unabated force during the present, and presented nearly the same outlines. Science continued more literary, and literature more scientific. Whatever was useful, ornamental, or ministered to enjoyment, received encouragement from both prince and people. Four acts of munificence distinguished the life of the king,—the literary mission to Portici for expediting the unravelling of the *Herculaneum MSS.*—the endowment of the Royal Society of Literature—his present of the library of George III. to the British Museum—and the support he afforded to the erection of St. David's College in Wales. The exploration of the ancient records of the kingdom, with a view to its juridical and historical illustration, continued a feature of the times. It was, however, chiefly the imitative arts or light literature, not the useful pursuits of science, that was especially distinguished by the patronage of the crown or its ministers.

In this reign began those splendid improvements of the metropolis by which architectural beauty was sought to be combined with utility and local convenience. The wonder of the age, however, was the further application of the powers of the STEAM-ENGINE; that unrivalled invention which had supported the war, and laid the foundation of commercial, manufacturing, and agricultural prosperity. Hitherto this mighty agent had been chiefly applied to the manufacturing arts, but in its new developments, it was extended to agriculture, road-travelling, and river and sea-navigation. Science in all her more gainful pursuits was cherished, not only as a source of individual opulence, but national grandeur. To the illustrious names of Priestley, Bradley, Arkwright, Maskelyne, Smeaton, Brindley, Cartwright, Dollond, Rumford, Black, Watt, Cavendish, and Playfair, which shed lustre on the reign of George III., may be added, as the contemporary portion of his successor, those of Davy, Wollaston, Dalton, Ivory, Babbage, Faraday, South, Young, Arnott, Airey, Leslie, Brewster, Herschel, Buckland, Telford, M'Adam, and Rennie. Chemistry, and its application to agriculture; geology, mineralogy, civil engineering, mechanics, anatomy, medicine, and geographical researches in Africa and the Arctic regions, constituted the boast of the period.

Political economy was sedulously cultivated by Malthus, Ricardo, Mill, M'Culloch, Thompson, and Torrens; but the economists were not agreed either as to the correctness or value of the additions made to the science since the days of Adam Smith. The great practical question was the tendency of population to become redundant, upon which the physical condition of the working-classes, the prudence of marriage, the rate of wages, colonization, and a public provision for indigence, almost entirely depended. Great contemporary interest was given to this truly national study by the unsettled state of the currency and banking, sudden vicissitudes in employment, and in commercial and manufacturing industry. It also derived importance from the narrow policy sought to be pursued by neighbouring states. Struck by our riches and greatness, but mistaking their sources, foreigners sought to emulate our prosperous career by fostering monopolies and mercantile restrictions, the futility and hurtfulness of which England had newly discovered and partly abandoned.

Except in its economical bearings, Political Philosophy was not successfully cultivated. The shrewd and practical but crude and unscientific work of Dr. Paley continued the standard publication. Jeremy Bentham sought to introduce more general principles in morals, jurisprudence, and



legislation ; but, either from prevailing doubts of their soundness, perplexities in the style of his later writings, or their incompatibility with established opinions and interests, he had only partial success with his countrymen. Metaphysics were almost entirely abandoned to Dugald Stewart ; and even this accomplished writer, treading in the cautious steps of Dr. Reid, seemed more disposed to limit than extend the range of this nebulous science. Eloquence and the drama declined ; or rather the rhetorical embellishments of the former, and the imaginative extravagances of the latter, were less cultivated. Legislative questions had become more practical than theoretic or constitutional : tables and arithmetic superseded tropes and figures ; and the pyrotechnical flashes of Chatham, Burke, Fox, Windham, and Sheridan disappeared amidst political economy, newspaper reporting, and the solid folios yearly issued by parliamentary committees, often replete with able and minute information on the most important interests of the empire.

The age, however, was neither dry nor exclusively scientific. It was brilliant with poetry, criticism, history, works of imagination, and the productions of the fine arts. Sir Walter Scott, Byron, Joanna Baillie, Maria Edgeworth, Jeffrey, Gifford, Lingard, Hallam, Roscoe, Palgrave, D'Israeli, Mackintosh, Wordsworth, Crabbe, Southey, Moore, Coleridge, Rogers, Hogg, Montgomery, and Campbell, are enduring names that would shed lustre on the proudest period of English literature. In essay and the lighter periodical writing, Hazlitt, Lamb, the Smiths, Leigh Hunt, Wilson, Maginn, and Lockhart, shone conspicuous, and completed, with other auxiliaries, the intellectual array who delighted their contemporaries and embellished the pacific era of George IV.

#### EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

A.D. 1820. *Jan. 29.* ACCESSION OF GEO.

IV.—The new reign commenced without any expectation of changes. As regent the king had long exercised sovereign power, and his accession was merely an alteration in the name of the chief magistrate. During the life-time of the late king the heir-apparent had mostly lived in a state of estrangement from his majesty, partly from connexion with the whigs, and partly from diversity of taste and pursuits. George III. was as little tolerant of differences of manners as of opinion, and the thoughtless dissipation of the son—his constantly-recurring pecuniary embarrassments—his separation from the princess Caroline, and living openly in concubinage, were habits repugnant to the moral sensibilities of the royal parent. Horse-racing and prize-fighting had at one time formed favourite diversions of the prince. He was also prone to riotous conviviality and to gaming ; the last a vice to which both he and the duke of York became early addicted. His life, in short, if not absolutely rakish, had been that of a splendid voluptuary, who freely indulged in every pleasure that money, high station, and a fine person could procure. It made him unpopular with the industrious orders ; but by the gay world, who assumed a different standard of decorum, he was considered not to have transgressed the esta-

blished license of personal indulgence ; and by them continued to be followed and looked up to as “the glass of fashion and mould of form.” The occurrences of the regency did not raise the prince in popular favour. The first years were brilliant by the events of the war and the conclusion of peace, but the latter had been marked by the prevalence of much distress and unusual political discontent. These were sought to be met by coercive acts of legislation, which produced internal quiet, especially as they happened to be aided by the revival of commerce ; but they augmented the unpopularity of the Liverpool administration. As the king gave no intimation of an intention either to change his responsible advisers (p. 701) or the spirit of his government, the new reign began sullenly, without indications of hope or general gladness.

30. George IV. held his first court at Carlton-house, and declared his intention “to maintain unimpaired the religion, laws, and liberties of the kingdom.” Being Sunday, the proclaiming of the king was deferred till next day, when the ceremony took place with the customary formalities.

*Feb. 1.* A bulletin announced the king's indisposition, supposed to arise from fatigue and anxiety. On the 9th the duke of Sussex had an interview of fraternal reconciliation. On the 12th his majesty was convalescent.

8. Died, at Hayes, in Kent, in his sixty-ninth year, sir VICARY GIBBS, late chief-justice of the court of common-pleas. He was the son of a surgeon, and born at Exeter; the native of a county which has been styled (*Law Mag.*, xxix. 58), "the nursing mother of eminent lawyers." Educated at Eton, possessing much natural acuteness, with a mind exclusively and laboriously devoted to his profession, the failure of Gibbs in attaining legal preferment would have been more remarkable than his success. He rendered Erskine effective aid as junior counsel for the prisoners in the State Trials of 1794. The reformers thought they had made an acquisition in their able advocate, but Mr. Gibbs had no taste for politics; moreover, he was always high church, and a tory. As attorney-general, sir Vicary sought to subject the press to a *reign of terror*, supported by vexatious and ruinous prosecutions. In 1810, of the fifty-two newspapers published in London, about one-half had *ex-officio* informations filed against them. His proceedings were severely reprobated both in parliament and out, and did not serve the ministers. As a lawyer merely, and a successful one, he was naturally opposed to legal reforms; but in the house of commons he never was of much weight, and seldom spoke. He resigned his office of attorney-general for a judgeship of the common-pleas, and withdrew from public life in November, 1818, completely worn out. Sir Vicary Gibbs won no laurels in private or public life: not that he was without private worth, but he was a thoroughly disagreeable person. Self-sufficient, petulant, irascible, and tyrannical; a foe to mirth and recreation, he seemed destined to live and die over the dry bones of Coke and Lyttleton. His diminutive figure and sour visage did not belie his nature.

11. The *Gazette* contains the alterations in the church-service required by the death of the late king; the name of queen Caroline omitted; but, to obviate the invidiousness of this omission, neither is the name of the duke of York, presumptive heir to the crown, specifically mentioned in the Liturgy, only that of the royal family.

13. Duke de Berri assassinated on leaving the opera by Louvel, formerly a soldier in the imperial guard. His trial was delayed, in the hope that he would be induced to reveal his accomplices; but he constantly denied that he had any, and persisted in his first averment, that he had not communicated his intention to a single human being, and that his object was the good of France. He was beheaded June 6th, pursuant to his sentence.

17. George III. interred at Windsor.

23. CATO-STREET CONSPIRACY. — For

some time it had been known to government that an attempt to assassinate the king's ministers was meditating, and that Arthur Thistlewood was at the bottom of it. The time chosen for the execution of the plot was on the occasion of a cabinet-dinner at lord Harrowby's in Grosvenor-square. Acting on previous information, Mr. Birnie, a Bow-street magistrate, with twelve of the patrol, proceeded to Cato-street in the Edgeware-road, where, in a hay-loft, they found the conspirators assembled. The entrance was by a ladder, by which Ruthven, Smithers, and others of the patrol, ascended. On the door being opened, twenty-five or thirty men appeared armed: Ruthven stated that he was a peace-officer, and required them to lay down their arms. Thistlewood opposed the officers with a drawn sword, and Smithers, rushing forward to seize him, was pierced, and instantly expired. A desperate struggle ensued in the dark, the lights having been extinguished; pending which, captain Fitzclarence arrived with a detachment of guards, who surrounded the premises, and nine of the desperadoes were taken. Thistlewood and the rest escaped; but the former was soon after seized in bed at an obscure lodging in Finsbury.

29. Parliament dissolved by proclamation.

Mar. 3. Mr. Parker, a retired tradesman of Woolwich, murdered, together with his housekeeper, and an attempt made to set fire to the house. The murderer was discovered, and executed on Pennenden-heath, July 31. He was named Nesbitt, had been in the artillery, and was an illiterate and abandoned character.

11. Westminster election terminated in the return of sir F. Burdett and Mr. Hobhouse, the whig candidate, the hon. G. Lamb, being rejected. For Middlesex, Messrs. Byng and S. C. Whitbread were returned. For the city of London, Messrs. Wood and Wilson, sir W. Curtis, and the lord-mayor were the sitting members: Waithman and Thorpe rejected.

16. Trial of Mr. Hunt and others begins at York, before Mr. Justice Bayley, for a conspiracy at Manchester on the 16th August. The trial lasted ten days. Four of the defendants were found guilty of assembling an unlawful meeting with unlawful banners. The verdict was subsequently impeached in the court of king's bench, but confirmed; and, May 15th, Mr. Hunt was sentenced to be imprisoned in Ilchester gaol for two years and six months, and Healy, Johnston, and Bamford to one year's imprisonment in Lincoln gaol. Hunt and Bamford were their own counsel through these proceedings.

23. Sir Francis Burdett found guilty at Leicester of a libel on government, in his



letter to his constituents, reflecting on the Manchester outrage of the 16th August. The baronet was tried before Mr. justice Best, and pleaded his own cause.

*Apr. 1.* Walter Scott, esq., the popular poet and novelist, created a baronet, and the first creation of the new reign.

5. AFFAIR OF BONNYMUIR.—A sort of insurrectionary movement in the south-west of Scotland, since known to have been mainly the work of spies. On the morning of the 2nd an incendiary placard was posted on the walls of Glasgow, calling on the people to effect a revolution by force; and recommending the owners of the factories to suspend their works till the struggle was over. (*Ann. Reg.*, lxii. 37.) On the 5th there was an assemblage of about fifty radicals, in lieu of 5000 that had been expected, at Bonnymuir, some of whom were armed with pikes, and some with pistols or muskets. Their plan was to proceed to the Carron iron-works, and equip themselves with artillery. They were dispersed by a troop of cavalry, and nineteen of the rebels, after a slight resistance, captured. Numerous arrests followed in Renfrewshire, Lanarkshire, and Ayrshire; and, on the very day of the skirmish on Bonnymuir, a committee of eleven, supposed to be the *provisional government*, were taken into custody. A special commission sat in the different counties, in the summer, to try the insurrectionists; three of whom were executed.

11. Sir Charles Wolseley and Joseph Harrison, a schoolmaster, tried at Chester assizes for sedition, and found guilty. They were sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment each, and to give securities for future good behaviour.

19. The trials of the Cato-street conspirators began at the Old Bailey, and ended on the 27th, when they were found guilty.

20. Messrs. Brougham and Denman admitted attorney and solicitor-general to the queen in the courts of law, and took their places within the bar.

24. The proprietor of the *Observer* fined 500*l.* by the court for transgressing their order in publishing the proceedings pending the trial of Thistlewood and his associates, but not enforced.

27. NEW PARLIAMENT opened by the king. The general election had produced little change in the composition of the house of commons. It had not gained any new ornament; neither had it lost any of those who were wont to take an active share in parliamentary business. The king's speech adverted to the prevalence of distress among the labouring classes, and the machinations of the disaffected through the circulation of seditious and

irreligious publications. In both houses the address was voted without a dissentient voice.

*May 1.* Arthur Thistlewood, James Ings, Thomas Brunt, Richard Tidd, and William Davidson, were executed at the Old Bailey. They were all in humble or indigent circumstances, and had been convicted of one of the wildest and most atrocious plots on record. During the trial, and at the place of execution, they conducted themselves with firmness, and even hardihood. Davidson was the only one of the sufferers who appeared open to religious impressions. The chief conspirator, Thistlewood, was in his 50th year, and had started in life with some fortune and education. He had been a lieutenant in the army, and was, during the reign of terror, in France, where he had imbibed his political tenets. Owing to some alleged affront he had challenged lord Sidmouth to fight a duel, for which he had been fined and imprisoned. Reduced to indigence, both he and Ings had received small sums of money from Edwards, the government spy. There was evidence to prove that Edwards was the original framer of the plot. The crowd at the execution was immense, but unattended with any marked expression of popular feeling, except that the ceremony of decapitation excited general disgust. Five of the conspirators had their sentences commuted for transportation.

5. Mr. Brougham, preparatory to the settlement of the civil-list, moved for an inquiry into the droits of the crown and admiralty and other branches of the hereditary revenues, not usually deemed to be within the control of parliament. Motion negatived by 273 to 145 votes.

6. The Jesuits banished from Russia. At the time of issuing the decree their number was estimated at 800; and many withdrew to China.

8. Merchants and traders of London, headed by Mr. Baring, petition the house of commons to remove the restrictions on foreign trade. A petition of similar tenor was presented, by Mr. Kirkman Finlay, a few days after, from Glasgow. Revisal of the navigation-laws, opening of the China trade, repeal of the wool-tax, and the import of timber from Norway on the same terms as from Canada, were the objects sought.

9. Sir James Mackintosh introduced six bills to mitigate the criminal laws.

14. Died, in his 70th year, HENRY GRATTAN, M.P., the celebrated Irish orator and statesman. It was to his zeal and abilities Ireland was mainly indebted for the patriotic spirit evinced in 1780, which extorted a relaxation in the selfish policy of England. Mr. Grattan's eloquence was

more distinguished for warmth, brilliancy, and rapidity, than correctness and solidity. He was opposed to the Union; but, as a member of the imperial parliament, he gave his support to the war with France. In politics he was a conservative-whig; and almost with his dying breath cautioned his countrymen against the new infection of radical doctrines. By a clause in his will his Queen's-county estate was to revert back again to the public, provided his children (of which he had thirteen) should all die without heirs.

20. Ali-Pasha, of Janina, declared himself independent of Turkey. After displaying for some time a singular union of craft and ferocity, and trying to take advantage of the Greek insurrection in 1821, this fierce old Albanian at last paid the forfeit of his head for rebelling against the Porte.

26. Lord Lansdowne moved for the appointment of a committee to consider the means of extending the foreign trade of the kingdom. His lordship ably detailed the restrictions which impeded commerce, and expressed himself in favour of free trade. Lord Liverpool agreed in the abstract policy of free trade, but thought there was danger in an abrupt departure from an old system.—Committee agreed to. At this period there was a general acquiescence, both in the legislature and in the country, in the wisdom of unrestricted commercial intercourse among nations; and Dr. Smith's principles, after fifty years, had triumphed.

June 2. A bottle picked up on the N.W. coast of Ireland, in lat. 54° 56' N., long. 9° W.: it contained a paper, dated June 20, 1819, lat. 38° 52', long. 64° W. of Greenwich, stating that it had been thrown into the sea to ascertain the strength and direction of the Florida gulf-stream.

6. ARRIVAL OF QUEEN CAROLINE.—For the remainder of the year public attention was almost exclusively fixed on the investigation into the conduct of the queen. It had been currently reported for some years, in the upper circles, that the princess of Wales had been living in habitual adultery with a man called Bergami, whom, from the office of courier, she had raised to the dignity of chamberlain, and familiarly admitted to her table. It was to investigate the truth of these reports that the Milanese commission had been appointed in 1818, under the direction of Sir John Leach, and the result of whose inquiries was, that the English ministers abroad were ordered not to give the princess, in their official character, any public recognition or reception. The princess, in consequence, became an outcast from the courts of Europe. By the death of the late king she became queen of England, which made it

necessary to determine on the conduct to be adopted towards her in that capacity. Mr. Brougham, her professional adviser, had, in 1819, privately offered to Lord Liverpool that the princess should have an annuity of 35,000*l.* a-year settled upon her for life, on condition of permanently residing abroad, and not assuming, in the event of the demise of the crown, the title of queen. (*Ann. Reg.*, lxiii. 20.) Such an arrangement was now peculiarly acceptable to government; they even went further, and proposed that her majesty's annuity should be raised to 50,000*l.*: but it was found that the offer of Mr. Brougham had been made without the privity of his client; and the mystery of his conduct was further augmented when it was discovered that he had kept back from her a knowledge of the ministerial proposition till after her majesty's determination became fixed to visit England, in vindication of her character and the assertion of her rights. (*Ann. Reg.*, lxii. 127.) Indeed, the learned gentleman seems to have held more confidential intercourse with the persecutors of the queen than his royal mistress. The alternatives offered to the queen before she sailed from Calais were, either that she should relinquish the royal title on the terms proposed, or her conduct abroad be subjected to a public inquiry. Boldly determining to face her enemies, she landed at Dover, from the ordinary packet, on the 6th, accompanied by alderman Wood and lady Hamilton, after a six-years' absence from England. Her entry into London was a triumph, and she was received with joyful acclamations by the people. On the same day a message was delivered to both houses of parliament, informing them of the king's intention to communicate certain papers respecting the conduct of the queen.

7. Message from the queen delivered to the house of commons, challenging the fullest inquiry into her conduct.

14. Address presented from the common council of the city of London, congratulating the queen on her arrival in this country. The example was speedily followed, and the metropolis kept in a ferment for months by addresses and processions in honour of the queen's return to England.

19. Died, at his seat, Spring-grove, Middlesex, in his 77th year, SIR JOSEPH BANKS, president of the Royal Society, and whose name, with that of Dr. Solander, is familiar to the reader of the first voyage of discovery of captain Cook. Inheriting, at the age of eighteen, a noble patrimony, Mr. Banks did not abandon himself to the pleasures of fashionable life, but gave the preference to pursuits of natural history, to which, through life, he continued passion-



ately attached. In 1778 he was made a baronet, and elected president of the Royal Society. Soon after some differences arose with his mathematical brethren, who thought their favourite studies neglected; but they soon subsided, and nothing further occurred to disturb the long reign of the president. Sir Joseph took an active part in the establishment of the African Association and the Horticultural Society. He died without issue.

21. Great distress in the south of Ireland: eleven banks stop payment.

28. Attempts at reconciliation having failed, a secret committee of the house of lords proceeded to open the *green bag*, containing the inculpatory documents against the queen. Lord Erskine and the marquis of Lansdowne having declined to act on the committee, lords Ellenborough and Hardwicke were substituted in their places.

FRANCE.—The diffusion of property in France is shown by the following return of electors paying the greatest amount of taxes from 1000 francs:—

Electors paying above—

f.	f.	
1000 to 1500	6724	
1500 „ 2000	2617	
2000 „ 2500	1410	
2500 „ 3000	827	
3000 „ 4000	853	
4000 and upwards	332	

The amount of taxation is estimated at about one-fifth of the income.

July 4. The secret committee made their report, recommending a solemn inquiry into the conduct of the queen.

5. Lord Liverpool presented a Bill of Pains and Penalties against the queen, on the ground of her adulterous intercourse with Bergami, and providing that her majesty be degraded from her rank and title, and her marriage with the king dissolved. The assumptions on which the bill was founded stood,—1st, that, in the year 1814, the princess of Wales, at Milan, in Italy, engaged in a menial situation Bartolomeo Bergami, a foreigner of low station; 2nd, that a degrading intimacy ensued; 3rd, that she engaged his family in her confidential service, bestowed upon him extraordinary marks of favour, obtained for him orders of knighthood, titles of honour, and conferred on him a pretended order, instituted by herself, without just authority; 4th, the second charge repeated and extended, that, by her conduct, scandal was brought on his majesty's family and kingdom.

6. Sir R. Fergusson moved, in the commons, for an account of the expenses of the Milan commission, which, it was alleged, had cost 25,000*l.*; and for half

this sum sir Ronald affirmed that witnesses might be procured in Italy to ruin the character of any man or woman, however respectable.—Motion got rid of by the order of the day.

7. The king's coronation, which had been fixed for August 1st, is indefinitely postponed.

Twelve Italians, eleven men and one woman, witnesses against the queen, landed at Dover from France. They were roughly treated by the populace.

14. Symptoms of insubordination among the foot-guards.

A revolution effected at Naples on the 5th instant. The troops joined the people, and a constitution adopted on the model of that of Spain.

18. Captain Brown has just completed the first chain-bridge in England, across the Tweed. The river is 437 feet from bank to bank, and the bridge is without any central support.

29. King reviews the city light-horse.

Aug. 4. Major Cartwright, Wooler, Edmonds, Lewis, and Maddocks, convicted at Warwick assizes of conspiracy in the election of a “legislatorial attorney,” to represent, in parliament, the town of Birmingham. Bills of exceptions were tendered to the court on the part of the defendants; and the discussions on the verdict occupied the court of King's Bench during several terms: it was not till Easter, 1821, the verdict was affirmed. Major Cartwright was sentenced to pay a fine of 100*l.*, and the others to suffer various terms of imprisonment.

6. Died, at Otlands, in the 54th year of her age, the duchess of York, eldest daughter of the king of Prussia. She was married to the duke of York in 1791: they had long lived separate, but on friendly terms.

19. The attorney-general, sir Robert Gifford, opened the charge against the queen. He concluded it on the 21st, and called the first Italian witness, Majocchi, whose appearance had such an effect upon the queen, who was present, that she uttered an exclamation of surprise, and hastily left the house.

30. A revolution in Portugal.

Sept. 7. Case against the queen having been closed, the lords adjourned to the 3rd of the ensuing month, to give time to prepare the defence. It was also the day of the greatest solar eclipse that has been visible since 1714, or will again be visible till 1847. It excited great interest in the metropolis, especially in the neighbourhood of the house of lords, where all the passages were crowded with peers, viewing the heavens through coloured glasses; their lordships having left the solicitor-

general nearly deserted in the middle of his summing-up.

30. Twenty Italian witnesses in favour of the queen landed at Dover. Popular enthusiasm was such that the sailors jumped into the sea to convey them in their arms on shore.

Oct. 1. Polish diet terminated its sittings. Numerous petitions had been presented to it, suggesting improvements in the agricultural and commercial regulations of the kingdom. They especially prayed that the Polish army might be clothed in Polish cloth, and the importation of English merchandise prohibited so long as English corn-laws remained in force.

2. The recent political revolutions in Spain, Portugal, and Naples, celebrated at the Crown and Anchor tavern.

3. Proceedings against the queen recommenced, when Mr. Brougham delivered a powerful address, that occupied two days, in her majesty's defence. He was followed by Mr. Williams; and, the lords having determined to limit the opening to two counsel, the examination of witnesses followed.

8. Christophe, King of Hayti, committed suicide. Hearing of a revolt of his troops, he exclaimed, "It is over with me," and shot himself. His character has been differently described: by one as bloody and tyrannical; by others as an ardent but rash patriot, "intent on the improvement of his people." (*Life of Wilberforce*, v. 83.) He was succeeded by president Boyer in the government of the island.

9. Franklin, *alias* Fletcher, connected with ministers, charged, at Bow-street, with publishing inflammatory hand-bills, purposely to excite disturbances in the metropolis; a practice he is supposed to have carried on for years past. He was detained by one magistrate, but liberated by sir Robert Baker, and escaped to France. A Mr. Denis O'Brien, who held a colonial appointment, was charged with being implicated in these nefarious practices.

A parliamentary return showed that the expenses of the queen's trial already amounted to 110,000*l*.

11. Spanish cortes resolved to sell the property of the clergy, and suppress monastic orders.

15. First diet of Germany opened.

23. Thomas Davidson, a printer, found guilty of publishing two blasphemous libels. The defendant conducted his own defence; and was three times fined in the course of it, by Mr. Justice Best, for using improper language, either towards the bench or the established authorities. Mrs. Carlile was also tried for two similar libels, and found guilty. The prosecutions were at the instance of the Society for the Suppression of Vice.

24. Witnesses in behalf of the queen having been all examined, Mr. Denman commenced the summing-up of the defence in a luminous speech, that occupied two days in the delivery. He was followed by Dr. Lushington, who remarked on the peculiarities of the case in a man seeking a divorce from his wife at the age of sixty, and from whom he had been twenty-four years separated by his own act, and for the gratification of his own appetites. The attorney-general began his reply on the 27th, and did not close till next day, when the solicitor-general followed, whose address lasted till the 30th; after which the house adjourned.

Nov. 2. Accounts received at the Admiralty of the safety of the north-west expedition, under lieutenant Parry. They had passed opposite to the Coppermine river of Hearne, in lat. 75°, long. 115°: they had wintered in long. 110°.

10. CLOSE OF THE QUEEN'S TRIAL.—The judicial part of the proceedings against the queen having closed, the lords met on the 2nd, to discuss the second reading of the Bill of Degradation. Lord Chancellor Eldon, in a brief but forcible speech, avowed his conviction that adultery had been proved, relying chiefly on the fact that the queen had slept under the same tent with Bergami on the deck of a polacre. Lauderdale was strongly of the same opinion. Grosvenor would have thrown the book in the king's face rather than have been guilty of the first act of indignity towards her majesty, by the omission of her name in the Liturgy. Harewood wished he was as thoroughly convinced of the queen's innocence as he was of the impolicy of passing the bill. Donoughmore generally discredited the evidence adduced against her majesty. On the ground of both justice and expediency earl Grey opposed the bill. Liverpool considered the sudden elevation of Bergami to the rank of chamberlain, and the marked partiality shown by the queen to his family, established the existence of an "infatuated passion." Arden would never consent to brand with everlasting infamy a member of the house of Brunswick. Falmouth would support the bill, divested of the divorce clause; and Harrowby said that might be omitted. Ellenborough affirmed it was for "the safety of domestic virtue that conduct like the queen's should be marked as infamous, ignominious, and base." Ashburton and Erskine thought the preamble unproved. Newcastle had been absent during the trial, but was convinced, from reading the evidence, of the queen's guilt. Lansdowne warmly replied to the duke, then went minutely into the evidence, and expressed his conviction that it was



not such as to justify the passing of the bill. Grenville thought an adulterous intercourse was "much too sufficiently and fully proved." Rosslyn said the witnesses were both "suspicious and corrupt." Other lords expressed their sentiments, and the debate continued till the 6th. Upon a division there were, for the second reading of the bill, 123 peers; against it, 95: majority 28. The dukes of York, Clarence, and Cambridge voted in favour of the bill; the duke of Gloucester against it; the dukes of Sussex and Cumberland did not vote. Some were in favour of degradation, but not divorce. Upon a division, 129 voted that the divorce clause should be retained; and 62 for its expulsion. The failure to get rid of the divorce clause, combined with the strong popular excitement in the queen's favour, and the little probability of carrying the bill through the commons, determined many peers who had voted in favour of the second reading to oppose the third. Upon the third reading of the bill, on the 10th, the ministerial majority had fallen from 28 to 9; the numbers being 108 for, 99 against. Immediately the result was known, lord Liverpool announced the intention of government to abandon the further prosecution of this extraordinary proceeding. The news that the bill was relinquished diffused a transport of joy through the metropolis. At night the town was illuminated, which was repeated on the Saturday and Monday following. Public agitation pending the trial was greater than had ever been known: processions were daily, and almost hourly, taking place to Hammersmith, where the queen resided, carrying addresses of congratulation, or to deprecate the prosecution. The powers of the press were vigorously exerted to keep alive the popular excitement. No reserve was observed, either on the part of the peers or the conductors of the press, in communicating, without disguise or curtailment, the entire mass of evidence that could be elicited by the most searching interrogatory from valets, couriers, chambermaids, and chamberlains. The consequence was, that the newspapers became the daily vehicle of more gross and revolting details than can be found in the history of the most abandoned of the Roman emperors. The working and middle classes were almost without exception in favour of the queen. Their feelings, like those of lord Archibald Hamilton, were irrelevant to the merits of the trial, and arose from a deep impression of the provocations she had received, and the long and vindictive persecution she had sustained.

23. Parliament suddenly prorogued without the usual form of a royal speech;

the object sought was alleged to be to avoid the delivery of a message from the queen, complaining that no provision had been made by ministers for her residence or maintenance.

25. Decision in the king's bench, that sufficient evidence had been given that sir Francis Burdett had, by putting a sealed letter into a post-office in Leicestershire, published a libel on his majesty's government in that county; that the trial in Leicestershire was therefore legal; and that consequently no reason existed for a new trial in Middlesex, where the letter was first opened, read, and made public.

29. The queen went in state to St. Paul's to return thanks for her happy deliverance; 150 gentlemen attended on horseback, and the crowd was immense. So great was the desire to obtain a view of the procession that various sums from five shillings to two guineas were given for single stations at windows. Among the gentlemen attending on the queen were sir Robert Wilson, Joseph Hume, M.P., hon. Keppel Craven, and Mr. Hobhouse. At the entrance to the cathedral a committee of 60 ladies, all dressed in white, received her majesty.

30. Sir Humphrey Davy elected, in opposition to lord Colchester, president of the Royal Society, in place of the late sir Joseph Banks.

*Dec.* Numerous congratulatory addresses were presented to the queen, in the course of this month, from different classes of the people; and counter-addresses to the king, from the universities and the chief municipal and ecclesiastical corporations.

11. Mr. Wright, the editor of the Parliamentary Debates, and formerly a partner with Mr. Cobbett in the bookselling business, obtained a verdict of 1000*l.* damages against Mr. Cobbett, for three libels inserted in his Political Register.

17. Congress of sovereigns at Troppau transferred to Laybach, nearer to Italy. No strangers were allowed to reside at Laybach during this convocation of crowned heads; and to make their councils more secret not a secretary was permitted to be present at the conferences of the ministers.

22. At the Schoolmasters' dinner Dr. Kelly announced that the duke of Orleans had presented to the society a lithographic engraving, from a picture painted at the command of the duke, exhibiting his royal highness in the character of a schoolmaster, he having during the revolution become a teacher of mathematics in Switzerland.

In a letter to his constituents of this date Mr. Canning stated that his sole reason for resigning his place of president

of the Board of Control is the late proceedings against the queen, and that he had no other difference with his colleagues.

23. A society established, assuming the title of The Constitutional Association, for opposing the progress of disloyal principles; sir John Sewell, LL.D., elected president.

28. Francis Jeffrey, the Scottish advocate, and editor of *The Edinburgh Review*, chosen rector of the university of Glasgow.

A prospectus issued for establishing, under the patronage of the king, a Royal Society of Literature, for the encouragement of indigent merit, and the promotion of general literature. Nothing, however, was done towards the institution of this society till June of the following year.

EDUCATION.—A general account (*Ann. Reg.* lxii. 234), showing the state of education in England:—*Endowed Schools*: New schools, 302, children, 39,590; ordinary schools, 3865, children, 125,843; total children, 165,433, revenue, 300,525*l*. *Unendowed day-schools*: new schools, 820, children, 105,582; dames' schools, 3102, children, 53,624; ordinary schools, 10,360, children, 319,643; total children, 478,849. *Sunday-schools*: new schools, 404, children, 50,979; ordinary schools, 4758, children, 401,838; total children, 452,817.

SPAIN, PORTUGAL, AND ITALY.—These countries were this year the scene of revolutions, so auspicious in their commencement as to threaten the entire ruin of the conservative compact of the Holy Alliance. In Spain the troops intended for the subjugation of South America revolted against the government, and, a general spirit of resistance to Ferdinand spreading through the kingdom, the faithless monarch was compelled to swear fidelity to the constitution of 1812, which he had before sworn to defend. The example in Spain extended to Portugal. In August a revolution occurred in Oporto, of which the declared objects were the establishment of a constitutional monarchy. At Lisbon the regency, in the absence of the king in Brazil, endeavoured to gain time, but, the junta of Oporto having proceeded to the capital, all parties coalesced to establish a provisional administration in the name of king John. The revolution in Naples commenced in July, and like the preceding was chiefly effected by the military, who demanded a constitution on the model of that in Spain. Attempts were made to subdue them by force, but the court, on sounding the disposition of the other military in the capital, found they were actuated by the same spirit. When this was known, king Ferdinand submitted to necessity, and declared his assent to the new

order of things. The Neapolitan parliament was convoked, and opened by Ferdinand, assisted by the hereditary prince in the character of lieutenant-general. Meanwhile the sovereigns of Russia, Austria, and Prussia, met at Troppau; they invited Ferdinand to join them to consult on the means of promoting what they called the happiness of nations. He obeyed, and was conveyed to Leghorn, on his way to Laybach, on board an English ship-of-war, leaving however a solemn declaration behind him to adhere to the main principles of the new constitution.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—At Fewston, in Yorkshire, Mr. John Demoine, 110; the chief amusement of his life was hunting, which he always pursued on foot, and continued till within the last five years of his life. At Portsea, Mr. Cannon, 94: he was never known to eat fish, flesh, or fowl, or drink anything stronger than water, except tea in the afternoon. Eaton Stannard Barrett, 35, author of the poem of "All the Talents," and some novels said to be almost as popular as the Waverley novels. Rev. Isaac Milner, dean of Carlisle, president of queen's college, and Lucasian professor of mathematics, Cambridge. At Brompton, Dr. Thomas Brown, 42, professor of moral philosophy in the university of Edinburgh; who united the rare qualifications of a poet and an acute metaphysician. General Mudge, 58, a man of science, to whom the public is indebted for the trigonometrical survey of the kingdom and excellent maps of the counties. Patrick Colquhoun, LL.D., 75, a magistrate of the metropolis, and writer of great ability and shrewdness on police, indigence, crime, and statistics: Dr. Colquhoun was a native of Dumbarton, and had spent the early part of his life in commercial pursuits. Arthur Young, 79, secretary to the Board of Agriculture, an experimental farmer and useful writer: he had been blind for the last ten years. At Paris, count de Volney, 65, member of the chamber of peers: a learned and eloquent writer. Mr. Dollond, 90, the celebrated optician. At Paris, marshal Kellerman, 86, the hero of Valmy. William Fielding, 80, police magistrate, and son of the author of "Tom Jones." William Hayley, 75, the biographer of Cowper. At Paris, Tallien, 54, the celebrated French revolutionist. Benjamin West, 82, president of the royal academy. Brownlow North, 79, forty years bishop of Winchester. William Hatsell, 87, chief clerk of the house of commons. Admiral sir Home Popham, 67. Henry Andrews, of Royston, 76; employed for forty years on the Nautical and other almanacks.

A.D. 1821. FOREIGN AFFAIRS.—Events



on the continent had a striking but illusory interest. At the commencement of the year the Piedmontese army revolted, and following the example of Naples proceeded to frame a new constitution. The king, disliking the infringement of his prerogatives, resigned the crown to his brother, who refused to accept it, and, a body of Austrians marching into Piedmont, the Sardinian despotism was promptly restored. Simultaneously a large Austrian army approached the Neapolitan frontier, where they were met by general Pepe, but his army fled at the first onset with the Austrians, who, in consequence, advanced to Naples without farther resistance. The parliament, which had relied on the fidelity of the king, was dissolved, the people were disarmed, the ancient authorities restored, and persecution took place against the leaders of the late revolution. In Romagna many persons were arrested as Carbonari, and a still greater number in Lombardy. Thirty-four of these were brought to trial in the autumn. Several were sentenced to death, but this was commuted for imprisonment in the castle of Spielberg for 21 years in some cases, and for 10 years in the rest. Spain continued to be agitated by political struggles; the friends of liberty were divided; they proceeded with too much precipitancy in the subversion of the abuses of an ancient system, strong in the prejudices of the people, and the support of a powerful priesthood. Portugal, though drawn into the revolutionary career by the example of her neighbour, continued peaceable and orderly. John VI., on his arrival from Brazil, readily swore to protect the constitution established in his absence, proclaimed the cortes, and the kingdom forthwith entered on a course of political and social regeneration. Beyond the Atlantic, the year witnessed the establishment of the independence of Colombia, and the fall of the Spanish power in Mexico and Peru. Brazil, triumphantly abolishing its old institutions, assumed a more conspicuous rank among free nations, and took a great step towards dissolving the ties that bound it to Portugal. In England there were symptoms of returning commercial prosperity and greater internal tranquillity. The chief domestic occurrences were the death of the queen—the king's coronation—his visits to Ireland and Hanover—and the bitterness of newspaper controversy.

Jan. 4. Mr. Gittam, of Nordelph, Norfolk, undertook for a wager of 100 guineas to skait a mile on the ice in three minutes. He performed the task 15 seconds within the time. Unfortunately he lost his life the same night, on his way home, by coming, whilst skaiting, with great force in

contact with a willow-tree, not far distant from his own house at Upwell.

16. Mr. Duncan Campbell refused at the mansion-house to be bound over to prosecute a thief, to do which, it appeared, he was not bound by law.

23. Parliament opened by the king in a speech of moderate tenor, in which a provision for the queen was recommended. The addresses in both houses passed without divisions. Mr. Wetherell moved for papers, with the view of showing the illegality of the omission of the queen's name in the liturgy: the crown and the whig lawyers were divided in opinion, and the subject got rid of by the previous question.

24. About the hour of closing the bank of Jones and Loyd, a thief snatched a parcel off the counter, with notes to the amount of 4200*l.*, and got clear off.

25. The duke of Wellington incurs much popular censure by terming a county meeting "a farce;" it was meant, however, to apply only to county meetings on the queen's business, that would hear only one side.

31. The queen, in a message to the commons, declined to accept any pecuniary allowance until her name was inserted in the liturgy. Her majesty soon after altered her resolution, and an annuity of 50,000*l.* was settled upon her by parliament.

Feb. 3. Mrs. Carlile sentenced to two years' imprisonment, in Dorchester gaol, for publishing an alleged libel. The husband was already confined in the same prison.

6. The king visited Drury-lane theatre for the first time since the commencement of the regency, and was favourably received, but the name of the queen was often heard to interrupt the acclamations.

8. Sir F. Burdett sentenced to pay a fine of 2000*l.* and to three months' imprisonment, for his letter reflecting on the Manchester affair. A meeting of the baronet's constituents was held on the 12th, to raise a subscription to pay the fine.

16. Duel at Chalk-farm, by moonlight, between Mr. Scott, editor of the *London Magazine*, and Mr. Christie, barrister: the former was mortally wounded, and died on the 27th, much regretted. The quarrel arose with Mr. Lockhart, who took offence at some of Scott's literary articles; but Mr. Scott declined a meeting with Mr. Lockhart, unless he would first disavow being the editor of *Blackwood's Magazine*. A misunderstanding then ensued between Mr. Lockhart's intended second and the deceased, which had a fatal termination. Coroner's jury having brought in a verdict of *wifful murder*, Mr. Christie and the seconds were tried at the Old Bailey, and acquitted.

21. Lord Lansdowne, in moving for the appointment of a committee on foreign trade, enlarged on the causes of existing embarrassments; which he ascribed, in a great degree, to the diminution of consumption in the country. Lord Liverpool, on the contrary, ascribed them to increased production; and to establish his proposition adduced statements of the increase of the consumption of beer, spirits, and other excisable articles, during the last four years.

25. Order of council fixes the rewards to be given to government ships that explore the Arctic Circle to the 150° W. longitude, or the 83° N. latitude.

*March 1.* Mr. Hume's motion for a reduction of 10,000 men in the army lost; sixteen divisions during the discussion.

16. Mr. Plunkett's bills for the removal of catholic disabilities read a second time; majority for the second reading, 254; against it, 243. They were opposed by Peel, Bankes, sir Wm. Scott, and Wetherell; supported by Mackintosh, Wilberforce, and Canning. They passed a third reading in the commons, but were thrown out by the lords.

*April.* True bills found by the grand jury of the Middlesex sessions against Wardell, editor of the *Statesman*, Thelwall, editor of the *Champion*, Dolby, publisher of the *Political Dictionary*, and Mary Ann Carlile, for seditious libels. They were preferred by the Constitutional Association, which, by assuming the duties of the law-officers of the crown, and being supported by the joint subscriptions of the ultra-loyal, soon became generally unpopular.

11. Duel in Paris between Manuel and Beaumont, two wealthy agents of the *Bourse*, in which the former was killed. It originated in the seduction of the wife of M. Manuel, whose body the clergy refused to inter, because he had been killed in a duel.

Thirty-five bills found at the Old Bailey for passing forged notes.

A lady (*Ann. Reg.* lxiii. 56), apparently labouring under considerable fatigue, called at a cottage near Turnham-green, and applied for refreshment, for which she tendered a bank-note. The inhabitant, a female, left the house for the purpose of procuring change, and on her return found the stranger gone. On hearing, as she believed, the cry of her infant, she hastened to its cradle, but to her utter dismay discovered her own child had been taken away, and another, of a tawny colour, placed in its stead. Cash to the amount of 100*l.* was fastened to its breast.

23. Greek patriarch of Constantinople executed at the door of his own church. Great numbers of Greeks massacred in several parts of Turkey.

28. Monument erected in St. Andrew's-square, Edinburgh, to the memory of the late viscount Melville, by a subscription of the officers and seamen of the British navy.

30. The *Fury*, captain Parry, and the *Hecla*, captain Lyon, proceeded on their voyage of discovery.

GREEK INSURRECTION.—The Greek insurrection, which for eight years after engaged a large share of attention, commenced in the spring. It had its origin in the principalities of Moldavia and Wallachia, where resistance to the authority of the Porte was organized by Ypsilanti, a Greek prince in the service of Russia. The Boyars, however, declared against the prince, who was unable to make head against the Turks. Meanwhile there was a rising in the Morea, and the flame extended to the islands of the Archipelago, where the Greeks fitted out fleets to cruise against their oppressors. Expectations were indulged in of a war between Turkey and Russia; provocations had been received by the latter, which obliged the Russian ambassador to leave Constantinople, yet the Russian armies made only demonstrations. It is supposed that, as the Greeks fought for independence, and did not seek a Muscovite in lieu of an Ottoman master, Alexander left them to fight their own battles, rather than countenance in any form the spirit of insurrection. The rising of the Greeks led to the beheading of the patriarch of the Greek church at Constantinople, accompanied by barbarous indignities to his person. The execution served as a signal for a general massacre of Greeks in Europe and Asia; while the Greeks, fired with indignation, resisted their assailants, and a mutual massacre, as horrible as any on record, filled most of the great cities of Greece and Asia Minor with victims.

HORTICULTURE.—In the reign of George III. the number of exotics introduced into England was 6750; in the reign of Elizabeth, 578; in the reigns of Charles I. and II., 578; in that of James II., 44; of William III., 298; of Anne, 230; of George I., 182; and 1770 in that of George II. The total number of exotics now in the gardens of this country is 11,970.

*May 5.* DEATH OF NAPOLEON BUONAPARTE.—The late French emperor was in his 52d year, and died of cancer in the stomach, a disease to which his father and sister had fallen premature victims. Upon opening his breast the malady that destroyed him was apparent, though its progress may have been hastened by mental affliction, and the unhealthy climate of St. Helena. He had been confined to his chamber since the 17th March, and on the 15th April began making his will, com-



mencing, "I die in the Apostolical Roman religion, in which I was born;" and next expressing a wish that his "ashes may repose on the banks of the Seine, in the midst of the French people, whom I have loved so well." The rest is history, of which Napoleon is now almost as much a portion as Cæsar or Hannibal. In determining his character we have the advantage of beholding him through his entire course, of witnessing his rise and fall, and of seeing him under those contrasted aspects of prosperous and adverse fortune that are wont to elicit the good and bad qualities of our nature. The result is that he was a man of transcendent abilities, to whom circumstances were favourable; that his career was wonderful, but not supernatural, yielding to the common influences which sway the lot of individuals. He attained eminence by wisdom and moderation; he lost it by the seductions of prosperity. His biography is an instructive lesson. The young artillery officer studious, discreet, self-denying, attentive to his duties, and seizing every opportunity to recommend himself to his superiors, could hardly fail of promotion in ordinary times, more especially in a crisis when talents were needed and merit sure of distinction. With tongue, pen, and sword; a prepossessing exterior; exempt from degrading vices, a correct judgment, quickness of observation, great self-reliance, energy, decision, and a sagacity that could pierce every perplexity, Napoleon was sure to win his way. At the head of the Army of Italy he lost none of the qualities that had fixed attention, and in subordinate employments inspired confidence. He was a hero, and the soldiers adored a leader so competent to lead them to battle, and whose soul breathed only republican patriotism and martial glory. Like most successful adventurers, Buonaparte was a great dissembler. He affected to sigh for peace in the midst of brilliant victories; to shun popular applause, and be more a votary of science than of ambition. It was only after he became First Consul that his hidden nature appeared, or that his better qualities were perverted by the intoxication of sudden exaltation. The wary taciturnity that had marked his early life now left him, and he overwhelmed those who approached him with an oracular volubility. Success inspired unbounded confidence in his own powers: he became arrogant, dictatorial, self-willed, restless, encroaching, and tyrannical. The sceptre of Charlemagne awaited him; his fiat was to be European law. Hence the aggressive wars of the empire; his perfidious intervention in the affairs of the Peninsula; his vain efforts to ruin British commerce; and his last gi-

gantic enterprise against Russia, when Fortune dashed the "warrior tyrant" to the earth as suddenly as she had raised him. Grandeur of soul did not desert him amidst his astounding reverses; he bore himself nobly, was loth to leave France less than he found her, and only bent to overpowering numbers after exhausting in her defence, with desperate energy, all the resources of his military genius. His second attempt to seize the crown was worthy of his renown. Great and decided in conception, adventurous and heroic in execution, it failed because neither the kings of Europe, nor the enlightened of the French nation, would trust him. On the rock of St. Helena his mighty spirit first began to quail beneath the successive strokes of his adverse destiny. Though not subdued by misfortune, his temper was soured by petty annoyances. Indignant at the supposed treachery of the English ministry in detaining him a prisoner, he descended to altercations with his keepers, more analogous to scenes among the gossips of Richardson's novels than those of his former greatness. Notwithstanding these outbreaks of littleness elicited during the bitterness of his exile, he maintained a lofty bearing, unalterably fixed on grand objects. He had also amiable and generous qualities, which are shown by the number and fidelity of his friends. He was proud and irascible, susceptible of injury, and keenly vindictive. It is not unlikely he died in the ostentation of Catholicism to spite his Protestant gaolers. His conversation was remarkable; it was varied, either sportive or sublime, vivid, picturesque, and replete with new and magnificent ideas. His disposition was to action rather than meditation, and his mind was more imaginative than philosophical. Formed on the model of Plutarch's heroes, his aim was to astonish by the splendour rather than the benevolence of his exploits. He disliked metaphysical abstractions; they had no motive force in them, and moreover, being of a levelling tendency, abated the pride of individual superiority, which was his glory. His ruling passion was power, to which he made religion, pageantry, fear, selfishness,—everything subordinate. Though calculating, and capable of combining many and distant results, he committed the egregious error of seeking to govern the present by the obsolete analogies of past times. His political system had no other foundation than the restless territorial domination of old Rome; it was the arbitrary will of one successful chieftain trampling on modern science, rights, and justice. His usurpation was an insult to his contemporaries, which they felt and resented, and his empire, dependent almost solely

on his own might, would probably have ended like that of the Macedonian conqueror, with his own existence, had it not been overthrown by the crowned heads, with whom he had vainly allied his fortunes. His career was astonishing, but savoured of the melo-dramatic. Surrounded with a theatrical bravery and display, it dazzled the multitude and the military, whose idol he still continues; but the wise must always lament the illusions of his vain-glorious pursuits. Apart from his public course his character was not particularly exceptionable; the domestic affections and virtues existing in fair proportion, and he was the slave of no gross personal vice or folly. Ambition made all his crime. To self-aggrandizement, virtue, truth, honour, and justice were sacrificed. He never sought more good than ministered to his own elevation; therefore mankind owe him nothing, and his fall was a blessing to the world.

May 8. The order of knighthood having been surreptitiously obtained by two medical practitioners at the king's levees, an order was issued from Carlton-house, directing that no person should be introduced to be knighted unless his majesty's consent had been previously signified to the lord in waiting, by one of the secretaries of state.

11. A person named Cooper, mistakenly supposed to be the editor of the *John Bull*, and Weaver, the printer, committed to Newgate for a breach of parliamentary privilege, in misrepresenting a speech of Mr. Grey Bennett.

12. Congress of the sovereigns of Russia, Prussia, and Austria, at Laybach, terminated. The chief subject of their deliberations had been the revolts in Piedmont and at Naples. Before separating they issued a circular, expressive of their determination to maintain "that social order under which Europe has enjoyed so many centuries of *glory and happiness*. Useful or necessary changes in legislation, and in the administration of states, ought only to emanate from the free-will and the intelligent and well-weighed conviction of those whom God has rendered responsible for power." The monarchs expressed their intention of re-assembling in the ensuing year.

DISFRANCHISEMENT OF GRAMPOUND.—In this month parliamentary reform excited interest, and motions on the subject were made by Mr. Lambton and lord John Russell. A bill introduced by the latter for the disfranchisement of Grampound, convicted of corruption, passed into a law; and by the bill, as it passed the commons, the franchise was transferred to Leeds, under a 20% qualification (10% lord John Russell proposed). But the lords refused

to pass the bill in this shape; and, in lieu of giving two representatives to Leeds, they gave two additional ones to the county of York. The boon, small enough at first, became a nullity.

18. Mr. Kent exhibited his machine for walking upon water, in one of the wet-docks at Leith. It consisted of a triangle of about ten feet, formed of rods of iron, to each angle of which was affixed a case of block-tin, filled with air, and completely water-tight.

24. Government having withdrawn the annual grant of 3000*l.* from the Board of Agriculture, the members determined to support it by an annual subscription among themselves.

25. Three manufacturers of forged bank-notes executed at Warwick. 10,000*l.* of forged notes were found in their possession, and the plates from which they had been struck.

Mr. John Hunt, of the *Examiner*, sentenced to one year's imprisonment in Cold-bath-fields, for a libel on the house of commons, in stating that it contained more public criminals than public guardians. Thomas Flindall, of the *Western Luminary*, was at the same time sentenced to eight months' imprisonment for a libel on the queen.

June 1. Five Jews apprehended at Leipsic, for issuing Dutch forged paper to the amount of 100,000*l.*

27. ECONOMY AND RETRENCHMENT.—The session of parliament was remarkable for the commencement, by Mr. Hume, of a severe scrutiny into the public estimates. His object was to show the immense disproportion between the peace expenditure of 1792 and the present; and, to establish this, he brought forward, in an elaborate speech of the 27th, various statements illustrative of the expenditure of the two periods. The general expenditure had increased from 16,000,000*l.*, in 1792, to 53,000,000*l.* The military force, regular and irregular, had increased from 92,430 men to 263,867; and the expense from 2,330,349*l.* to 8,926,421*l.* The expense of the navy in 1792 was under 2,000,000*l.*; it was now 6,382,786*l.* The increase in the expense of the different public offices was shown to be enormous, and to require curtailment. Although 850,000*l.* was granted for the king's civil list, various other charges were thrown upon the public under the head of civil contingencies. Salaries had been increased, and sinecures multiplied; the offices of receivers-general of taxes and of distributors of stamps were mostly executed by deputies; the principals held large balances of public money, and were often in arrear at their deaths. Immense savings might be effected by an



improved mode of collecting the public revenues. Out of a revenue of 66,000,000*l.* upwards of 4,000,000*l.* were paid for the expense of collecting it. Mr. Hume concluded by moving a resolution expressive of the necessity of retrenchment, and of an adjustment of the expenditure to the increased value of the currency and the distressed circumstances of the country. An amendment was moved by Mr. Bankes, not greatly differing from the original resolution; and Mr. Hume's resolution rejected by 174 to 94. The details, however, produced made a great impression on the country, and even on the members of government, many of whom were unconscious of the waste in their own departments, and of the greater economy that might be introduced therein without detriment to the public service.

*July 4.* New theatre in the Haymarket opened.

A letter from Mr. Scoresby states that the Congreve rockets had been successfully used in the whale-fishery.

The queen having, by memorial to the king, claimed a right to be crowned, the privy-council assembled at the Cockpit, Whitehall, to hear counsel in support of her majesty's claim. Messrs. Brougham and Denman were heard in favour of the claim; the attorney and solicitor-general against it. After long deliberation the lords of the council reported that queens consort were not entitled of right to be crowned at any time; which report being communicated to the king, he approved of it.

11. Parliament prorogued by commission.

17. Spain having ratified the treaty for the cession of the Floridas to the United States of America, these much-coveted provinces were formally taken possession of by general Jackson. The republic made, likewise, an acquisition of territory to the westward of the lakes, by purchasing above 5,000,000 of acres of fertile lands from the Indians. It was paid for in merchandise to the value of 25,000 dollars, and an annual payment of less than 2000*l.*

19. CORONATION OF GEORGE IV.—This ancient solemnity was performed in a style of great splendour. Preparations had been making for upwards of a twelvemonth, and in general the precedent of James II. was followed, as described by Sandford. Three tiers of galleries, supported upon columns, were erected on the eastern and western sides of Westminster Abbey, and directly under the south window was the royal platform, on which the throne and king's chair were placed, superbly decorated. Beneath the galleries were sideboards or cellarets, communicating with passages by

sliding panels, for the convenience of the waiters. Separate boxes were provided for the accommodation of the royal family, foreign ministers, and lord great chamberlain. A flooring of wood was laid down in the body of the hall, fourteen inches above the pavement. There were six dining-tables, each 56 feet long and 7 wide. The decorations were in the Gothic style, the better to correspond with the occasion and the building; and a triumphal arch of great beauty was composed of the various orders of architecture existing in the hall itself and in Westminster Abbey. The covered platform, over which the procession moved from the north door of the hall to the west door of the abbey, was 1500 feet in length. In addition to the preparations for the grand banquet, the adjoining courts of law were fitted up for private dinner-rooms, for dining nearly 2000 members of the procession. The preparations in Westminster Abbey were on a corresponding scale of magnificence. Great care was taken of the ornaments by encasing them in boards; and in the erection of the galleries not a single nail or hook was driven into the venerable fabric. Both in the hall and the abbey seats were reserved for the reporters for the public press. At some of the entrances were seen Cribb, Jackson, and other pugilists, intended to assist the doorkeepers in maintaining order. On each side of the platform, from the hall to the abbey, an amphitheatre of seats was erected, to accommodate 100,000 spectators. All the houses and places in the vicinity, from which a view of the pageant could be obtained, were covered with galleries and seats, the prices of which varied from twenty guineas to one guinea. About 7000 tickets were issued by the lord chamberlain and the earl marshal for admission to the hall and abbey. On Wednesday there was a grand rehearsal of the duties of the champion, and of all others who had duties to perform. That night the king slept at the speaker's house. The firing of guns and ringing of bells, at one o'clock next morning, announced the opening of the gala; and so early as two o'clock the streets were filled with the carriages of persons going to witness the ceremony. At five a considerable number of the company had arrived and taken their places in the hall. The corporations of London, Oxford, and Dublin came by water from Blackfriars-bridge. About five the queen arrived in her state-carriage; but no preparation had been made for her reception, and, not having an admission-ticket, her majesty was obliged to retire. At nine the peers, great officers of state, and all who were to take part in the procession, were assembled, in the costumes of their ranks and offices, in

the hall; presenting, with the galleries occupied by the peeresses, foreign ambassadors, and others, in rich dresses, a scene indescribably picturesque and magnificent. At ten precisely his majesty entered, splendidly attired: the persons in the galleries rose to receive him; and the trumpets struck up "God save the king." Almost immediately after the procession began to move towards the Abbey, the king walking under a canopy of cloth of gold, supported by Henry Brougham, M.P., and the other barons of the Cinque-ports. As the different personages went along the platform popular feeling was manifested, some being hissed, others cheered. The administration of the coronation-oath, homage, unction, and other rites of the abbey, occupied about five hours. When the king re-entered the hall, with the crown on his head, he was received with enthusiastic cheers and waving of handkerchiefs: he retired for an hour to repose himself, when his guests took the opportunity to eat their dinners. During this scene the ladies and gentlemen from the galleries promenaded between the tables, and some partook of the refreshments so abundantly supplied. About five the royal banquet was served; the deputy earl marshal, the lord high steward, and lord high constable attending the first course, on horseback, in splendid robes, and their chargers richly caparisoned. Next followed the challenge of the king's champion, the proclamation of the royal titles by the heralds, the officers-at-arms crying "*Largesse*." A noble lord then proposed the king's health, with three times three, which was drunk with rapturous applause. Lord Chancellor Eldon said they ought to have drunk it with nine times nine. The king drank the health of "his peers and his good people." His majesty having dined, "*Non nobis Domine*" was sung, and the king shortly after quitted the hall. Immediately a scramble ensued for the viands he had left on his table. The hall was lighted by wax-lights, but they were unnecessary, as the business of the day was concluded before dark. The weather was beautiful, the sun shining brightly all day. The amusements set apart for the people consisted of the ascent of a balloon, a boat-race on the Serpentine, an exhibition of fire-works in Hyde-park, and the throwing open the theatres for free admission. The expenses of the coronation amounted to 238,000*l*. (*Hansard's Parl. Debates*, ix. 1107.) The crown worn by the king was of unexampled brilliance and richness. The jewels of the crown were valued at 65,000*l*.; and ten per cent. interest was paid to Rundell and Bridge for the loan of them. The total quantities of provisions for the dinner and banquet

were as follows:—7442*lbs*. of beef 033*lbs*. of veal, 20 quarters of house-lamb, 20 legs of house-lamb, 5 saddles of lamb, 55 quarters of grass-lamb, 160 lambs' sweetreads, 389 cow-heels, 400 calves'-feet, 250 *lbs*. of suet, 160 geese, 720 pullets and capons, 1610 chickens, 520 fowls for stock (hens), 1730 *lbs*. of bacon, 550 *lbs*. of lard, 912 *lbs*. of butter, 8400 eggs. Of *wines*,—champagne, 100 dozens; Burgundy, 20 dozens; claret, upwards of 200 dozens; hock, 50 dozens; Madeira, 50 dozens; sherry and port, 350 dozens; iced punch, 100 gallons.

23. Westminster Hall thrown open to the public for three days.

24. Court of Parma goes into mourning for Napoleon Buonaparte; the duchess Maria Louisa being the widow of the emperor. No mourning in any other European court.

26. The king holds a splendid drawing-room; 2000 persons present.

Coronation-medals distributed by the speaker to each member of parliament, on sending his receipt for it. They weigh a full ounce of gold each, and are well executed.

30. The Queen taken ill in Drury-lane theatre.

31. The king left Carlton-house on a visit to Ireland. He was to embark and dine on board the royal yacht at Portsmouth.

*Aug. 7. DEATH OF QUEEN CAROLINE.*—Her majesty had for some days suffered from constipation, which baffled the skill of her physicians. She was in her 53rd year, and member of an heroic but unfortunate family. Her father, the duke of Brunswick, lost his dominions and his life at the battle of Jena; and her brother, in 1815, was slain in Belgium. Her marriage with her cousin, the prince of Wales; their separation a twelvemonth after; the princess going abroad; her return to England; and her trial for adultery, are incidents already noticed. Immediately the queen ceased to be an object of persecution the excitement in her favour began to subside; and the little interest evinced on the day of her unsuccessful attempt to take part in the coronation showed the change that had taken place in the popular sentiment. She was felt for as an oppressed, but not blameless, princess. That her marriage should turn out unhappy was to be expected: it was a marriage of interest, not of the affections. George III. urged forward the union, as a mode of reclaiming a dissolute son; and the match became one of pecuniary convenience, formed with a dissipated prince, already affianced to Mrs. Fitzherbert, to whom he was attached, and connected by ties of pleasure with others. Under such cir-



cumstances Caroline had little chance of domestic bliss; neither was she peculiarly fitted, by character or education, to win the regards of her husband. Her heart and understanding were good, but not cultivated. Accustomed to the military license of a German court,—self-willed, hasty and vehement in temper, with little taste for refined pursuits,—it was not likely she would prove acceptable to a fastidious consort, spoiled by self-indulgence. Naturally, the queen was lively and joyous, affable and condescending, fond of being beloved and confided in by those beneath her. She liked music, and had a taste for mechanics; and occasionally indulged in the construction of toys and ornaments. Buoyant in spirits, and careless, she “forgave anything but dulness.” (*Diary of George IV.* i. 255.) She was affectionately regarded by George III., which weighs much in favour of her character; but her royal mother and sisters-in-law soon ceased to be her friends. Though not intellectual, she was shrewd enough to penetrate the wiles of the successive cliques of politicians who sought to make her grievances the ladder of their ambition. Either as a mode of annoying her enemies, or from conscious innocence, she was regardless of suspicious appearances. Hence her adoption of the sail-maker’s son, Austin, her visits to Vauxhall and masked balls, and her mingling familiarly with the fiddlers and vocalists of the theatres. Abroad, her conduct was so unseemly, in adopting a handsome courier for her confidant, that all her English attendants left her service. Her popularity in England was partly the result of the unpopularity of the king, partly of faction, partly of a generous sympathy with misfortune, and a conviction that, if not without fault, she was more sinned against than sinning. Her majesty met death with the characteristic courage of her family; and, as she herself declared, without regret. Her body lay in state at her villa, near Hammersmith; and, on the 19th, was conveyed through the metropolis, on its way to Brunswick, its final resting-place. The day proved one of the wettest of the season, yet countless multitudes assembled to form part of the procession. Instead of the funeral passing through London, a circuitous route had been directed by the king’s ministers; which apparent indignity so incensed the people, that an affray arose with the guards, and two lives were lost. By barricading the streets, the people succeeded in forcing the procession through the city, whence the royal corpse was hurried with indecent precipitancy to Harwich, the port of embarkation. At Colchester, pursuant to the queen’s will, a plate was affixed to the coffin, with an

inscription, dictated by herself,—“Here lies Caroline of Brunswick, the *injured* (erroneously ‘murdered,’ in the *Edinburgh Review*, cxxxv. 51) queen of England.” This was removed, in spite of the protestations of the executors, by the agent of government, who had the management of the funeral. The remains of the queen reached Brunswick on the 24th, attended by lord and lady Hood, Dr. Lushington, serjeant Wilde, and lady Ann Hamilton. They were deposited in the family vault of the house of Brunswick—already the receptacle of fifty-seven of Caroline’s illustrious relatives.

10. The remains of major André disinterred at New York, with the view of their removal to England.

15. The king landed in Ireland. His reception was enthusiastic. From the entrance of the vice-regal lodge, in Phoenixpark, he made a short address to the people, assuring them that “his heart had always been Irish.”

24. The inquest on Francis, who was shot at the queen’s funeral, returned a verdict of wilful murder against a life-guardsmen unknown.

Sept. 3. A religious society established at Paris, called the *Société de la Morale Chrétienne*, of which the duke de la Rochefoucault Liancourt, a catholic, and the baron de Stael Holstein, a protestant, are members. Its main object is declared to be the inculcation of the importance of the precepts of Christianity, and their application to the practical uses of social life.

12. Coroner’s jury on Richard Honey, shot at Cumberland-gate while viewing the queen’s funeral, returned a verdict of manslaughter against the officers and men of the 1st regiment of life-guards, after sitting fourteen days, ten hours per day.

14. The king having expressed some displeasure at the conduct of sir Robert Baker, in suffering the queen’s funeral to pass through the city, he resigned his situation of chief magistrate at Bow-street. He was succeeded by Mr. Birnie.

15. The king arrived at Carlton-house from Ireland. He left Dunleary harbour (since called King’s-town) on the 5th, but had been detained by tempestuous weather.

20. Major-general sir Robert Wilson removed from the army, by order of the king, for the decided part he had taken in the queen’s favour. A public subscription was set on foot for sir Robert, to compensate him for the loss of his commission, which amounted to upwards of 10,000*l.*

24. The king embarked at Ramsgate to visit Hanover, and landed at Calais.

The duke of York, archbishop of Canterbury, lord chancellor, and other noblemen, were appointed lords-justices, to administer the government during his absence.

Oct. 5. George IV., having passed through Lisle, Brussels, Aix-la-Chapelle, and Minden, entered his German dominions. On the 11th he made his public entrance into Hanover, drawn by eight milk-white horses. The joy of the people was extreme at the sight of the first member of the Brunswick family who had exchanged the ancient title of elector for that of king of Hanover. Ten days were spent in the capital amidst rejoicings and festivals. The king underwent the fatigue of a second coronation. He reviewed the military; received the civic authorities; visited the university of Gottingen; spoke German; and joined in a grand hunting-party at Diester.

9. The walls of the metropolis placarded with a statement to the effect that the body of Olive Wilmott Serres, princess of Cumberland, had been taken in execution for debt; and that a legacy of 15,000*l.*, bequeathed to her royal highness by her late uncle, George III., was unjustly withheld from her by the government. According to the representation of the said princess, her mother was married to the late duke of Cumberland in 1767; that the nuptials were kept secret, the duke marrying a second wife; and that she, his legitimate daughter by the first, was born in 1772. The story is only valuable by showing the natural addiction of some minds to imposture. Olive was the daughter of a Robert Wilmott, a house-painter at Warwick, and was brought up by the Rev. Dr. Wilmott, about whom she published a book, to prove the doctor the real Junius. (*Ann. Reg.*, lxiii. 150.) The fabrication not succeeding, she started herself as Olive, princess of Cumberland, having previously been married to a foreign artist, named Serres. Mrs. Serres had a singular taste for documentary evidence, generally contriving that the writers of her letters and certificates should be dead before they were produced.

Nov. 2. Lord Byron's tragedy of *Marino Faliero*, having been translated into French verse, is hissed off the stage at the Théâtre Français.

8. The king arrived at Carlton-house from Hanover.

15. Mary Anne Carlile, sister of Richard Carlile, sentenced to pay a fine of 500*l.*, and a year's imprisonment, for publishing a theological libel.

19. A respectable farmer, named Shea, his wife, seven children, and five labourers, who resided in the county of Tipperary,

were burnt in their dwellings in the night by an armed banditti. Such of the unfortunate victims as attempted to escape were fired at by the miscreants, who surrounded the premises, and drove them back into the flames. Shea had dispossessed his under-tenants and the cotters on his farm, because they refused either to pay rent, or labour for its discharge.

24. Proprietor of the *John Bull* sentenced to pay a fine of 1100*l.*, and to nine months' imprisonment, for a libel on lady Wrottesley, charging her with an intrigue with a menial servant.

31. Monument to Martin Luther erected at Wittenberg. Before the statue was uncovered the ancient and celebrated hymn, "*Ein fester Burg ist unser Gott*," was sung in chorus by a vast assemblage of spectators, and had a sublime effect.

A curious case of copyright occupied the lord chancellor this month. Mrs. Rundell, mother of the silversmith on Ludgate-hill, upwards of fourteen years ago, wrote a book on cookery, and gave it to Mr. Murray, who published it, with additions, and some embellishments. The work at first did not command a rapid sale; but, after a few years, it rose to 12,000 annually. Mrs. Rundell now wished to resume the copyright, and obtained an injunction against the sale of it by Murray; who, in his turn, obtained an injunction against the sale of it by the authoress with his additions. The lord chancellor said that, under the circumstances, he doubted whether a copyright existed; but, without deciding that point, his lordship dissolved the injunction against Mr. Murray.

During the last ten years, it appears (*Ann. Reg.*, lxiii. 181), there have been 163 suicides in the city and liberties of Westminster, of which number 63 were females. The greatest number of suicides was in July, and the fewest in October.

Dec. 5. M. Berenger, the popular French song-writer, sentenced to a fine of 500 francs, and three months' imprisonment, for an outrage, in his writings, against public morals and religion.

29. Marquis Wellesley arrived at Dublin, as the new lord-lieutenant; and, as he was known to be favourable to the catholics, he was not very welcome to the protestant faction.

PRINCE HOHENLOHE.—The curiosity of the Bavarians was much excited by a pretended worker of miraculous cures, in the person of prince Hohenlohe. The principal scene of his performances was Bamberg. Dupes were soon accumulated: in a short time there were hundreds who could attest his efficiency in their own persons, and thousands who were willing to attest it in others. His fame waxed great;



and the daughters of even princely houses repaired to him, to receive health and beauty through the power of his word: for prayer and exhortation were the means by which he made the blind to see, and the lame to walk. Unfortunately for the prince, the police were sceptical: they insisted that he should operate publicly, not secretly; and that a commission of the medical faculty should be present at his cures. Looking upon this supervision as degrading to his holy mission, the prince suddenly left Bamberg, to seek new proselytes, and less prying inquisitors, in the Austrian capital.

**RAIN.**—The quantity of rain that fell in 1820 was 26 inches; in 1821, 41 inches.

**SMALL-POX.**—792 persons died of the small-pox within the London bills of mortality in the last year. This is about one-third of the average number of those who perished annually in the metropolis before the introduction of vaccination; showing either the neglect of vaccination, or its inefficacy.

**ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS.**—A parliamentary return shows that there are forty-two newspapers, or other stamped journals, published every Saturday, Sunday, or Monday, exclusive of eighteen others, published on other days, or twice or thrice weekly. There are eight morning and seven evening papers published in London; the circulation of the former about 18,000, of the latter, 12,000. The total circulation of the London newspaper-press is estimated as follows:—

Of Saturday, Sunday, and Monday editions. . . .	3,250,000
Of other weekly, twice and thrice a-week papers . . .	1,750,000
Of daily papers. . . . .	10,500,000

Grand total, yearly. 15,500,000

Of country newspapers there are, of English provincials, 135; Scottish, 47; Irish, 126: total, 308

**EDUCATION IN FRANCE.**—The number of communes having one or more schools, in 1817, was 17,800; in 1820, 24,124. The number of scholars in 1817 was 865,721; in 1820, 1,063,919. The population of France in 1820 amounted to 30,407,907. In 1817 there were 990,023 births, and 786,338 deaths; making an excess of births, amounting to 203,685.

**MISCELLANIES.**—A daily paper commenced in Lancashire.

Burgess's swift conveyance established between London, Manchester, and Liverpool, by which two horses run eight-mile stages, at the rate of twelve miles an-hour.

Steam-boats established between Dover and Calais, and London and Leith.

The special juries of London reformed by the exertions of alderman Waithman.

Coal-gas begun to be used in the inflation of balloons, in lieu of the gas obtained from sulphuric acid and zinc or iron-filings. The filling took less time, and was not so expensive.

Three hundred and ninety-three German booksellers published no less than 3322 new works in the course of half a year.

Eight thousand volumes, in the Russian tongue, have appeared within the last twenty years; whereas, till 1800, only 3000 had been printed.

The canal at Alexandria completed by European engineers. It commences near the Nile, a little below Saene, is nearly fifty miles in length, twenty-eight yards in breadth, and seventeen feet deep: 100,000 men were set to work on it in January, 1819; the number afterwards amounted to 290,000.

A penknife, containing 2016 blades, was presented to queen Caroline by a Sheffield manufacturer; another was afterwards made, containing 1821 blades.

**ANNUAL OBITUARY.**—Adam Walker, 90, popular lecturer on astronomy, the inventor of the warm-air stove, mail-coach, and revolving lights of Scilly and Cromer. At Rome, John Keats, 25, author of "Endymion," and other poems. Richard Twiss, 74, author of "Travels in the Peninsula," a "Trip to Paris," &c. Dr. Gregory, M.D., 68, professor of medicine in the university of Edinburgh, and author of some philosophical and literary essays. M. Bryant, 64, author of a "Biographical Dictionary of Painters." Mrs. Piozzi, 82, a literary lady, and the well-known friend of Dr. Johnson. The earl of Sheffield, 86, the friend of Gibbon, and editor of his miscellaneous works. At Cheshunt, Oliver Cromwell, 79, a lineal descendant of the Protector. (See p. 217.) James Carmichael Smith, M.D., 80: he obtained from parliament a reward, in 1802, for a discovery of the means of preventing contagion by a mineral acid. The duchess dowager of Orleans, 68: by her death the duke has obtained an addition to his income of 100,000*l*. Mrs. Inchbald, 64, a celebrated novelist and dramatist. Francis Hargrave, 81, recorder of Liverpool, and a voluminous writer on law subjects. Vicesimus Knox, D.D., 68, author of "Essays on Education." John Rennie, 60, eminent civil engineer: Waterloo-bridge, the London and East-India docks, the Bell-rock lighthouse, attest his merits. John Barrett, D.D., 69, vice-provost of Trinity-college, Dublin, and professor of oriental languages. Dr. Barrett's habits were eccentric: he was author of an "Inquiry into the Origin of the Constellations of the

Zodiac;" and, by extreme parsimony, accumulated a fortune of 80,000*l.*, which he bequeathed to his successor for charitable uses. Sir James Mansfield, 88, late chief-justice of the court of common-pleas. James Perry, 65, proprietor of the *Morning Chronicle*, who contributed greatly to the improvement of the newspaper-press. Rev. Samuel Vince, archdeacon of Bedford, Plumian professor of astronomy at Cambridge, and author of several mathematical works. At Brighton, Phœbe Hessel, 108: this singular woman served many years in the army as a private soldier, and was at the battle of Fontenoy, in 1745. Rev. Thomas Dunham Whitaker, 63, eminent antiquary, and classical scholar.

A.D. 1822. The present was an interesting but not eventful year. It was more remarkable for speculation than action. In the British parliament important questions were discussed but not decided. Among the leading subjects of debate were the state of the currency, criminal law, agriculture, Ireland, parliamentary reform, the influence of the crown, the Scotch burghs, and newspaper press. It was a singular feature of the year that agricultural distress had almost become an European calamity; in France and the Netherlands, as well as England, there were loud complaints of the ruinously low prices produced by fruitful seasons. While, however, the agriculturists of the continent and of Britain were suffering from abundance, a grievous famine arose in Ireland, showing the anomalies of her situation, resulting either from the staple food of her population differing from that of surrounding nations, or the limitation of her commercial interchanges with her neighbours. Her distresses from scarcity were aggravated by the agrarian outrages, originating in the pressure of tithes and rack-rents, on the peasantry and small farmers. Several of the ringleaders of these disorders were apprehended by the civil and military power, and great numbers executed or transported. A new lord-lieutenant was appointed in the marquis Wellesley, the insurrection act passed, and the habeas corpus act suspended, the object of which coercive measures was at least to produce temporary tranquillity. Abroad the chief subjects of interest were the congress of sovereigns at Verona, the progress of the Greek insurrection, the struggles between the liberals and ultras in France, and the erection of Brazil into an independent empire.

Jan. The shop of Carlile, the vendor of irreligious publications, is now fitted up with a novel contrivance for baffling the law-officers of the crown. Publications that are legal are sold openly in his shop,

while those of contrary character are sold from a window in his back parlour, having a turning machine, one end of which conveys the desired book to his customer, the other the money to the vendor. The person who conducts the apparatus is invisible, and the room barricaded.

5. Mr. Loveday, an Englishman resident in France, petitioned the French chamber of deputies on the seduction of his daughter to the catholic faith.

30. *Thames* outward-bound East-Indiaman wrecked off Beachey-head; twelve of the crew perished, the remainder were saved by captain Manby's life-preserver.

Cortes of Portugal present a laudatory address to Jeremy Bentham, on his writings in behalf of liberty.

Several pieces of plate voted to Mr. Hume, M.P., for his services in enforcing retrenchment and economy.

THE GRENVILLES.—In the course of the month ministers strengthened themselves by a union with this section of the opposition. The marquis of Buckingham was elevated to a duke; Mr. C. Wynne was placed at the head of the India board, and another of the family was named envoy to the Swiss cantons. The accession of the Grenvilles was considered a dereliction of principle, but except the catholic, to which they were favourable, there was no other question on which they differed from the general policy of the Liverpool government. The loss to the opposition was probably greater than the gain to the ministry. Lord Grenville had retired from public life; and no other member of his small party had such talents for oratory or business as to make his aid of much value. In Ireland the catholics were gratified by the removal of the anti-catholic Saurin, and Mr. Plunkett succeeded him in the office of attorney-general. Another ministerial change was the retirement of lord Sidmouth from active employment; who, retaining his seat in the cabinet, was succeeded in his office of home secretary by Mr. Peel. This gentleman became a useful auxiliary to lord Londonderry in the commons, and his political prepossessions mainly coincided with those of his predecessor.

Feb. 4. Will of the late queen proved in the prerogative court. The effects are sworn under 20,000*l.*

5. Parliament opened by the king. His majesty regretted that his visit to Ireland had failed to produce tranquillity; manufactures and commerce were represented to be prosperous, but agriculture to be labouring under difficulties. Amendments to the address were moved by sir F. Burdett and Mr. Hume, but negatived by large majorities.



11. **INSURRECTION ACT.**—The number and daring of the Whiteboys and other nocturnal bands in Ireland rendered defensive measures necessary for the protection of persons and property. The disorders were agrarian, they arose out of the letting of land, rents, and tithes, and were unconnected with religious or political animosities. To meet them ministers proposed to suspend the habeas corpus act, and to renew the insurrection act. By the provisions of the last the lord-lieutenant was empowered, on the representation of justices in session that a district was disturbed, to proclaim it in a state of insurrection; interdict the inhabitants from leaving their homes between sunset and sunrise, and subject them to visits by night, to ascertain their presence in their own dwellings. If absent, they were considered idle and disorderly, and liable to *transportation for seven years!* The act encountered considerable opposition, but, together with the bill for the suspension of the habeas corpus act, received the royal assent on the 11th inst.

16. An injunction refused to restrain the piracy of lord Byron's "Cain;" the lord chancellor had doubts about the moral tendency of the work, and till they were removed by the verdict of a jury for damages, in a court of common law, he would not extend to the publication the protection of property.

20. Died, at an advanced age, JOHN STEWART, commonly called "Walking Stewart," having, to gratify the *amor videndi*, wandered on foot over most parts of the habitable globe. Early in life he left the service of the East India company, with an intimation that he was destined to a nobler vocation than the making out of "invoices for a company of grocers." After visiting the principal cities of the East, and crossing the desert of Arabia to Marseilles, and thence through France and Spain to England, he went over to the United States of America, all of which he traversed. It was the luxury of seeing himself, not of benefiting others, that seemingly prompted his incessant locomotion, for it does not appear he published to the world the results of his observations. One eccentric opinion of Stewart's was, that the time would come when the wives of the rich would cease to bear children, those of the poor only undergoing the labour. He received a grant of 15,000*l.* from parliament to compensate him for losses sustained in the service of the nabob of Arcot. The last ten years of his life were spent in the neighbourhood of Charing-cross, that he might live, as he said, in Dr. Johnson's "full tide of human existence."

25. **REDUCTION OF NAVY FIVE PER CENTS.**—Mr. Vansittart proposed in parliament his plan for reducing the interest of the Navy five per cents. to four; holders not signifying their dissent to have 105*l.* in a new four per cent. stock, and persons dissenting, to be paid off in numerical order. By this scheme an annual saving to the public of 1,140,000*l.* would be effected; besides a farther saving of upwards of 90,000*l.* of annual charge, which would be gained by a similar reduction of the Irish five per cents. The high prices of the public funds obviated all difficulty in the execution of this financial operation, and the holders of the five per cent. stock found it expedient to acquiesce in the minister's terms. The dissentients were in number only 1373, and the stock held by them amounted to 2,615,978*l.*; not a fifteenth part of the five per cent. capital.

26. General Berton heads an insurrection against the Bourbon government at Soumiers: it was speedily defeated by the national guards, and the general, with several accomplices in his wild scheme, put to death.

28. Sir N. Conant and other police magistrates found guilty of conspiring to deprive a publican of his licence.

March 1. House of commons resolved, by a majority of 182 against 128, to reduce ('snuff out,' Mr. Wilberforce termed it) two junior lords of the admiralty, leaving ministers in a minority of 54.

6. The tide was so low, owing to a strong south-west wind, in the Thames, near London-bridge, that it was fordable in many places; numerous persons walked across, and several valuable articles that had lain at the bottom of the river for years were picked up.

8. United States of America recognise the independence of the South American republics. Congress voted 100,000 dollars to defray the charges of diplomatic intercourse with the new governments.

9. Mrs. Donatt, a retired widow lady, barbarously murdered at No. 16, Robert-street, Bedford-row: the assassin left a sack filled with plate and other valuables, which from the circumstance of being disturbed he did not carry off.

10. Severe restrictions imposed on the French journals and periodicals; they were opposed by M. Talleyrand.

Litigation has arisen between M. Lafitte, the banker in Paris, and the representatives of Napoleon. In 1815 Buonaparte lodged with the house of Lafitte 4,222,000*l.* in cash, and the remainder of 5,000,000*l.* in securities. The bank gave him a receipt, acknowledging the 5,000,000*l.* to be payable at sight; also a letter of credit on bankers at Philadelphia,

payable at sight, for the same amount. The securities were never realized—a part of the 4,222,000*l.* were remitted to Napoleon's order, and the balance, being 3,149,000*l.*, remains payable to the representatives of Napoleon. The point at issue is, who are the legal representatives?

20. Will of Thomas Coutts, esq., an eminent banker, who died last year, aged 86, proved, and the personal property sworn under 600,000*l.* Mrs. Coutts, formerly Miss Mellon, of Drury-lane theatre, to whom Mr. Coutts had been married eight years, was left universal legatee, to the exclusion of three daughters by a former wife. To Mrs. Coutts was also bequeathed the banking-business in the Strand.

26. Court of chancery decided that Mr. Lawrence's lectures were out of the protection of equity, owing to containing passages inimical to christianity.

Sir Alexander Boswell killed in a duel by James Stuart, esq., of Dunearn; the meeting originated in some literary effusion of the former, inserted in a newspaper recently started in Scotland for political purposes.

27. Mr. Canning appointed governor-general of India, and sergeant Blossett chief-justice of India.

Several instances occurred this month, in the county of Norfolk, of the malicious destruction of threshing-machines, and of the stacks and buildings of farmers, by incendiaries.

30. At the special commission at Limerick, many of "captain Rock's" men convicted; some executed, others transported.

*April.* FAMINE IN IRELAND.—Owing to the failure of the potato-crop, through the heavy rains of last year, the south of Ireland was afflicted with a grievous scarcity of the staple food of the population. The price of potatoes was quadrupled. Before the end of the month the province of Munster was in a state of actual starvation. The peasantry crowded into the towns and villages, in the vain hope of finding employment or subsistence. At Ennis, many were heard inquiring what crimes were punishable by confinement, as they were willing, by such means, to procure food even in prison. The sufferings of the people were augmented by typhus fever, which spread its ravages. Intelligence of this general distress arriving in England, prompt measures were adopted for its alleviation. A committee was formed in London, and corresponding committees in different parts of the country. The benevolence of individuals was such that large funds were speedily at their disposal, and, being well managed, the Irish soon experienced the benefits of British sympathy.

4. Captain Birley, and others of the Manchester yeomanry, were tried by a special jury, at Lancaster assizes, for unlawfully wounding Thomas Redford, August 16th, 1819. After a trial of four days, before Mr. Justice Holroyd, the jury returned a verdict of acquittal. A motion was made in the court of king's bench, May 2nd, to obtain a new trial, which was refused, the judges delivering their opinions *seriatim* against it.

11. Newman Knowles, esq., appointed recorder of London, in the room of sir John Silvester, deceased.

13. Sir John Sewell, and other members of the Constitutional Association, tried for a conspiracy, but acquitted.

20. Alderman Walthman obtained 500*l.* damages from the *John Bull*, for a libel, imputing to him perjury, and the receiving of stolen goods.

25. Thomas Denman, esq., elected common-sergeant of the city of London, after a sharp contest with Mr. Bolland, by a majority of 131 of the common council against 119.

29. Lord John Russell's motion on parliamentary reform negatived by 269 to 164. His lordship's plan was to add 100 members to the house; 60 for counties and 40 for large towns. This, he urged, had become politic from the evidence of increasing intelligence among the people, especially the middling classes. He was replied to by Mr. Canning, the champion of the existing representation.

AGRICULTURAL DISTRESSES.—On the 29th the house of commons resolved itself into a committee, to take into consideration the report of the agricultural committee. On that day three different schemes were proposed for the relief of the farmers and landlords; one by the marquis of Londonderry, the second by Mr. Ricardo, and the third by Mr. Huskisson. That of the marquis was adopted. The pressing evil was the low price of produce, which disabled the farmer from paying his rent, and the landlord from supporting his former expenditure. The remedies chiefly insisted upon were a reduction of taxes, especially those affecting agriculture; secondly, the abolition of tithes; and, thirdly, the reduction of the interest of the national debt. (*Ann. Reg.* lxiv. 2.) The last had begun to be very generally insisted upon at public meetings, and its equity defended on the ground of the increased value of the currency since the passing of Peel's bill for the resumption of payments in specie. The exclusion of foreign corn from the British markets had ceased to be relied upon as a panacea, as very little had during the last three years been imported, and the lowness of price resulted from the



abundance of home produce. One novelty in lord Londonderry's scheme was the advance of a loan to the agriculturists, on the security of corn. The idea was not favourably received, and was sharply ridiculed as a species of pawnbroking, unworthy of the government. Moreover, it was urged that the bankers were always ready to advance to the farmers on adequate security; and that it would be impolitic for government to incur greater risk than individuals. Project of a loan was in consequence left out of the minister's plan.

30. A bill introduced by Mr. Canning for the admission of catholic peers into the lords. It passed the commons, but was thrown out by the upper house.

May 2. Lord Normanby moved a resolution for the reduction of one of the two postmasters-general, which was carried against ministers by 216 to 201.

Duel between the dukes of Bedford and Buckingham, in consequence of some expression of the former at a county meeting; both parties fired, Bedford in the air, and the business terminated amicably.

It is a fact that, though trade is encouraged in France, a merchant or manufacturer, since the return of the Bourbons, if he receives a patent of nobility, must take out "letters of relief," conveying the king's pardon for having descended to trade.—(*Ann. Reg.* 1822, p. 82.)

5. Vauxhall-gardens sold for 28,000*l*.

6. St. Paul's cathedral lighted with gas.

8. The number of aliens in England 24,930.

9. An iron steam-boat exhibited on the Thames; it is propelled by a thirty-horse engine, and is intended to navigate between London and Paris, being the first instance of a direct water-communication between the two capitals.

14. Parliament awarded 800,000*l*. to the army under the command of the duke of Wellington, for property and stores captured in the Peninsula, in the years 1812, 1813, and 1814. The grant for naval prize was 116,400*l*.

Commitments under the game-laws in England had increased from 858 in 1816, to 1467 in 1820.

24. DEAD WEIGHT ANNUITY.—The amount of military and naval pensions, and civil superannuations, was about five millions annually. On the 24th Mr. Vansittart brought forward his amended scheme for relieving the immediate pressure of this *dead weight*, by extending it over a longer term of years than the natural lives of the annuitants. For this purpose an annuity of 2,800,000*l*. was appropriated, out of the existing revenue, for forty-five years, and vested in trustees for the discharge of the then payments,

which, for that year, were estimated at 4,900,000*l*., subject to yearly diminution by deaths. It was computed that, according to the ordinary duration of human life, the annuities for the lives of the then holders would be equal to the annuity of 2,800,000*l*. for forty-five years. The trustees were, therefore, empowered to sell, from time to time, such portions of this annuity as would provide the funds required for the payment of the dead weight, according to a computation made of the amount which would, probably, be due in each year. The bank of England became the contractor for a portion of the annuity. There was no novelty of principle in the project; it was only the old one of anticipating distant resources by throwing the burden of the existing generation on the next. It had the further disadvantage of incurring an useless expense for management; whereas the sinking-fund, amounting at the time to about five millions, might have been applied to existing exigencies, and a real saving effected.

June 11. CURRENCY QUESTION.—A question opened in the house of commons, on a motion of Mr. Western, which often subsequently occupied its attention. It referred to the effect on prices of Mr. Peel's act of 1819, for the resumption of cash-payments. According to the views of Mr. Western and Mr. Attwood, the value of money had been enormously increased by the resumption of payments in specie by the bank, and its necessary preliminary, a diminution of the circulation. Prices had in consequence fallen; rents, taxes, annuities, and all fixed payments become more onerous. They were opposed by Messrs. Huskisson, Peel, and Ricardo; and on the motion of the former a resolution was carried, by 194 to 30, "That this house will not alter the standard of gold or silver, in fineness, weight, or denomination."

19. Price of gold 77*s.* 6*d.* the ounce, being 4½*d.* below the mint price, a circumstance which has not occurred since the year 1797, and was of rare occurrence previous to that period.

20. Bank of England lowered the rate of discount to 4 per cent., and extended the time of bills from 65 to 95 days.

Tonnage of ships, entering the port of Liverpool, has increased from 446,788 in 1812, to 892,902 in 1822.

The clerk of the insolvent court mentioned to a parliamentary committee a paper, in common circulation among debtors, containing instructions how to harass their creditors. By the process described a debtor, incurring an expense of 30*l*., may by the forms of law put his creditor to an expense of 314*l*.

By an order of the court of exchequer, the harsh and absurd process of issuing extents in aid is restricted.

25. Mr. Abercrombie moved for a committee of the house of commons to inquire into the conduct of the law-officers of the crown in Scotland, with respect to the public press. It seems the lord advocate, sir Walter Scott, and other ministerial partisans, had been instrumental in setting up certain scurrilous newspapers, that were made the vehicle of attacks on their political opponents. The exposure by Mr. Abercrombie drew from Messrs. Hope and Menzies, two of the parties implicated, letters of remonstrance, which were deemed by the house a breach of privilege, and they were summoned to the bar. They appeared there, but no ulterior proceedings followed, and the business was got rid of.

July 6. Royal guards at Madrid declared against the constitution, but, being attacked by the militia and citizens, were overpowered, and their instigators banished.

10. Statue of Achilles set up in Hyde-park, in honour of the duke of Wellington.

19. The innkeepers on the Dover road petitioned against the adoption of steam-navigation from London to Calais.

20. Iturbide crowned emperor of Mexico.

A charge of sodomy made against the hon. and rev. Percy Jocelyn, bishop of Clogher. Last night he was detected in the back-room of a public-house in St. Alban's-place, St. James's, in a situation with Moverly, a private soldier of the guards, which led to his instant apprehension and removal to the watch-house. There were seven witnesses to the fact. It seems, however, that the capital offence had not been completed; in consequence Mr. Dyer, the magistrate at Marlborough-street, accepted bail to the amount of 1000*l.* for the future appearance of the delinquent. Moverly was committed to take his trial; but some days after he too was bailed. The bail, of course, was forfeited, and the bishop degraded by the sentence of his ecclesiastical superior.

22. Proprietor of *Blackwood's Magazine* convicted of libels impugning the conduct and scholarship of professor Leslie; damages 100*l.*

24. Parliament appeared to-day in a novel character, that of the patron of literature. On the motion of the chancellor of the exchequer, 2000*l.* was voted towards the printing a complete edition of the ancient historians of the realm. This was the more necessary, as some of those in circulation were incorrect, and many remained in manuscript. It was seconded by sir James Mackintosh.

27. A soldier, who had received 300

lashes, was found by a coroner's jury, at York, to have been flogged to death.

29. Several English actors, attempting to perform the English drama at the Théâtre Porte St. Martin, at Paris, were hissed and treated in a very unhandsome manner by the Parisians; the police did not interfere, and the behaviour of the audience applauded by the French journals.

Aug. 6. END OF THE SESSION.—Parliament was this day prorogued by the king. Agriculture, finance, the currency, the pressure of taxes, and the improvement of the navigation-laws, had formed the chief topics of discussion. On the latter five acts were passed, the main purposes of which were to repeal obsolete commercial statutes—to relax in the strictness of the laws enacted for the encouragement of British shipping—and to afford to our colonies a more direct intercourse with foreigners.

The New Marriage Act had excited considerable interest. By the marriage act of 1754, all marriages of minors, celebrated without the consent of certain specified persons, are declared null. A bill passed the commons, giving validity to marriages which according to the existing law were null, and providing that the marriages of minors, celebrated without due notice, should not be void, merely voidable, and liable to be annulled only during the minority of the parties, at the suit of parents or guardians. The retrospective clause of this bill was the only part retained by the lords, who declared against the nullity of marriages. The New Act is said (*Ann. Reg.* lxiv. 236) to have mainly originated in the marriage of the marquis of Donegal with Miss May, who was the natural daughter of a gentleman celebrated for assisting persons of fashion with loans of money. The brother of the marquis sought to set this marriage aside, to render the children illegitimate, and himself, should the marquis die without lawful issue, heir to his title and estates. In law the marriage was void, inasmuch as the provisions of lord Hardwicke's act had not been observed, but it was now protected by the retrospective clause of the new statute.

A parliamentary report of this session showed that there were 89 members of the house of commons, not including those who have naval or military commissions, who hold offices or pensions, either in possession or reversion, to the amount of 170,343*l.* The members holding naval and military commissions were 79.

10. The king embarked at Greenwich for Scotland, and on the 15th landed at Leith. His majesty passed the night of the 18th at Dalkeith, as a guest of the duke of Buccleugh, and next day held a



levee in the ancient palace of Holyrood. He wore the highland costume. After a variety of festivities, a procession to Holyrood-house, a review, and dining with the corporation, the king re-embarked at Queensferry on the 27th, and on the 30th arrived in the Thames.

12. **DEATH OF THE MARQUIS OF LONDONDERRY.**—The foreign secretary was in his 54th year, and had for some time been the leading member of government, in the house of commons. Either from the pressure of his public duties, or other cause, he had previously exhibited symptoms of insanity, which terminated in suicide, by cutting the carotid artery, at his seat, North Cray, in Kent. He was unpopular, but esteemed in private life for a gracious and gentlemanly bearing. The cruel and corrupt part he had acted or tolerated in Ireland in the suppression of the rebellion, and in effecting the union, always weighed upon his reputation, which was not redeemed by his subsequent official life in England. The tenor of his foreign policy, in which the interests of kings, not of their subjects, were chiefly considered, and his proneness to arbitrary measures at home, proved him an unfit minister for a constitutional monarchy. He was reputed a successful negociator, and was honoured with the public thanks of parliament for his services in effecting the "settlement of Europe" at the general peace. Except in diplomacy his abilities were ordinary; attentive and pains-taking, but without invention or varied knowledge, and his oratory, though occasionally effective, was generally either in the extreme of feebleness, or turgid and incorrect. The populace evinced their dislike of the marquis at his funeral, by raising an exulting shout when his coffin was conveyed into Westminster Abbey, to be deposited between the remains of Fox and Pitt.

*Sept.* The commander-in-chief orders that the records of the services of each regiment in the British service shall be prepared, and deposited in the office of the adjutant-general.

9. Sir Benjamin Bloomfield appointed envoy extraordinary and minister to the court of Stockholm.

16. Mr. Canning, who was about to set out to India as governor-general, appointed foreign secretary, in room of the late marquis of Londonderry.

25. Thirty-one patriots sentenced to death at Naples, for being concerned in the late revolution.

*Oct. 1.* Proceedings began in the court of chancery, to prove the earl of Portsmouth a lunatic.

8. Mr. Bowring, translator of the Russian Anthology, arrested at Calais, by order of the French government; the

charges against him being found frivolous, he was soon after set at liberty.

11. Day-patrols established in London.

12. Revolution in Brazil. Pedro, son of the reigning king of Portugal, and who had been left viceroy of the province in the absence of his father, was installed on the 12th inst. emperor of Brazil. It terminated the American sovereignty of Portugal. The Portuguese troops in Brazil who were opposed to separation from the mother-country, were shipped off to Portugal.

20. An eruption of Mount Vesuvius, the greatest since 1794: the lava flowed in a stream, half a mile in breadth, and immense quantities of stones were discharged.

22. Congress of sovereigns at Verona opened. This is the tenth congress since that of Reichenbach, in Silesia, in 1790.

31. The decoration of the statue of William III., at Dublin, prohibited by proclamation. It had been usual every 4th of November to decorate this statue, in commemoration of Protestant ascendancy, by which religious animosities were kept alive.

An alleged mermaid exhibiting in London, and much visited. Sir Everard Home expressed an opinion that this creature of the poet's brain is merely an artificial composition, consisting of the head, arms, and trunk of the monkey class, joined to the lower extremity of a fish resembling a salmon.

*Nov. 1.* Caledonian canal opened, after a labour of nearly twenty years, and the expenditure of 900,000*l.*

4. Mr. Hunt's term of imprisonment in Ilchester gaol having expired, he made his public entry into London, attended by vast numbers of the populace.

15. Sir James Mackintosh elected lord rector of the university of Glasgow, for the ensuing year. Mr. Jeffrey, the late rector, made a speech, in which he gave his reasons for voting for sir James, in preference to sir Walter Scott, who had been put in nomination.

20. Fonthill-abbey purchased by Mr. Farquhar, for 330,000*l.*

M. Constant, the liberal member of the chamber of deputies, sentenced to pay a fine of 500 francs and to one month's imprisonment, for a libel.

23. Faculty of medicine suppressed at Paris by a royal ordinance; the alleged cause a disturbance among the students. By this arbitrary proceeding 25 professors of eminence were deprived of their places, and 4000 students of the means of instruction.

The extensive library belonging to the late professor Kall, of Copenhagen, which

consisted of 202 volumes, printed before the year 1500; 1000 folios, 4500 quartos, and 8000 octavos, together with 50,000 controversial tracts, and 688 MSS., mostly relating to Danish history, purchased by Mr. Nestler, bookseller, of Hamburg, for about 600*l*.

*Dec. 14.* Riot at the Dublin theatre, by the Orange party, on the marquis Wellesley going to the play, when a bottle and other missiles were thrown at the vice-regal box. Not more than thirty persons were engaged in this disgraceful tumult.

15. CONGRESS AT VERONA.—The proceedings of the sovereigns did not terminate till the middle of this month, and had been carried on with great secrecy. Their general principle is not to tolerate any change in the European governments, least of all such as do not emanate from themselves. In a circular, dated the 14th inst., the insurrection of the Greeks is considered a rebellion against the legitimate Turkish empire. Upon the subject of Spain there was a difference of opinion. M. de Montmorency, the ultra-minister of France, represented the actual government of Spain as inconsistent with the safety of monarchical power; and called upon the sovereigns to re-establish the despotism of Ferdinand. To this policy Russia was decidedly inclined; Austria and Prussia were less resolute for violent measures, though strongly opposed to the proceedings of the cortes; England advocated peace, and denied the right of foreign powers to interfere in the affairs of the Peninsula. (*Ann. Reg.*, lxiv. 218.) Meanwhile France had exhibited strong indications of warlike purposes: Chateaubriand and other ultras had for some time been fomenting conspiracies in Spain, and secretly furnishing with arms and ammunition the priest-ridden insurgents against the constitutionalists. An army, which during the previous year had been assembled on the frontier, under the pretext of preventing the fever at Barcelona from spreading into France, changed its name from that of a *Sanitary Cordón* to an army of observation. A note of M. de Villele, the new French prime minister, of the 27th, removed all doubt as to the designs of his government; it was to the effect that unless Spain altered her political constitution, France would use force to convert her from her revolutionary theories.

21. A society formed in London for prosecuting fraudulent debtors.

The subscriptions raised in Britain for the relief of the distressed Irish amount to 350,000*l*.; by grant from parliament, 300,000*l*.; by local subscriptions in Ireland, 150,000*l*.; making a total of 800,000*l*.

FOREIGN LOANS.—A remarkable feature

of the present year was the extent to which speculation in foreign securities was carried, and the variations in their value. Besides a multitude of European loans—Russian, Prussian, Spanish, Danish, Neapolitan—some of the new states of South America came into the money-market. The government of Chili raised a loan of a million sterling; that of Peru one of two millions. These were readily contracted for, and soon rose to a high premium. An adventurer, named Gregor Macgregor, who, though a British subject, chose to assume the title of cacique, or king of Poyais, found persons credulous enough to engage to advance 200,000*l*. to his nominal kingdom, on the faith of its imaginary revenues. The low rate of interest, and facility with which money could be obtained, fostered the wild spirit of speculation. Many of the bankers and capitalists made advances on the scrip of the new loans, which augmented the amount of unemployed capital, and the means for further transactions. In November there began to be signs of reaction. A mystery hung over the proceedings of the congress at Verona; the French threatened to invade Spain, and doubts were thrown on the validity of M. Zea's contract for the Columbian loan. A panic ensued: the prices of all foreign securities fell rapidly, and thousands were ruined or impoverished.

SCIENCE AND ARTS.—Mr. Charles Babbage announced that he had invented various machines by which some of the more complicated processes of arithmetical calculation may be performed with certainty and dispatch.

Sir H. Davy's experiments on the *papyrus* of Herculaneum closed without producing any marked result. Iodine and chlorine separated the rolls, without injuring the ink, which is of charcoal, on which these agents have no action; but the papyrus itself, containing much undecomposed vegetable matter, baffled the investigation. In general the writing is only on one side; MSS. are rolled round sticks, like the webs of silk-mercers.

M. Humboldt estimated the number of the known species of plants at 56,000, and those of animals at 51,700.

France ascertained to contain 25 libraries, containing 1,700,000 volumes; 613 printing-offices; 1025 booksellers, and 192 paper-merchants.

The French exhibition of paintings this year contained 1715 articles; namely, 1372 paintings of all sizes, landscapes, portraits, &c.; 158 statues, busts, and bas-reliefs; 171 engravings and designs; 14 plans and architectural models.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Benjamin Hawes, esq., 89, a philanthropist, who bequeathed 1000*l*. each to twenty-four different cha-



rities. Rev. Edward Barry, M.D., D.D., 63, lately a popular preacher in the metropolis, and theological writer. Sir John Borlase Warren, admiral of the white: sir John sat in four parliaments, and was a meritorious naval officer. At Burton-hall, Yorkshire, rev. Christopher Wyvill, 83, one of the early advocates of parliamentary reform. Rev. Edward Daniel Clarke, LL.D., 54, the celebrated traveller. Dr. Kipling, dean of Peterborough, a warm theological controversialist. Sir Nathaniel Conant, 77, late chief-magistrate of Bow-street, and the projector of the reform in the police of the metropolis, in 1792. The earl of Hertford, late lord-chamberlain, 79; his lordship's entailed estates are estimated at 90,000*l.* per annum, and descend to his only son, the earl of Yarmouth. Abbé Haüy, the celebrated mineralogist. Sir John Reid, medical writer and lecturer. Dr. Middleton, 53, bishop of Calcutta, and an useful divine. Thomas Oldfield, 67, author of a "Representative History of Britain." John Emery, 46, an admirable comic actor. Sir William Herschel, 84, the eminent astronomer: sir William left one son, who inherits his name and his genius. Mrs. Garrick, 99, relict of the English Roscius; among this lady's bequests was a service of pewter, which her husband David used when a bachelor. Richard Wooddeson, D.C.L., 75, Vinerian professor at Oxford, and writer on the English laws. At Venice, Antonio Canova, 65, the famous sculptor. At Rome, madame Letitia Buonaparte, mother of Napoleon: she was very rich, bequeathing to her eight surviving children 37,000*l.* each, and to her brother, cardinal Fesch, a superb palace, fitted up in the most costly manner. John Aikin, M.D., 75, one of the eminent intellectual characters of his time: in addition to his numerous writings, Dr. Aikin was editor of *The Monthly Magazine*, from its commencement in 1796 to 1806. Count Berthollet, 64, an eminent French chemist. Prince Hardenburg, the able Prussian minister. Augustus duke of Saxe Gotha, great patron of literature and the arts. John Prince Smith, barrister, author of the "Elements of Money," &c.

A.D. 1823. RETURNING PROSPERITY.—The country at the beginning, and through the whole of this year, exhibited unequivocal marks of a steady and progressive prosperity. Every branch of manufacturing industry was in a flourishing state. The cotton-trade was unusually brisk; there was a considerable increase in the quantity of silks and woollen-cloths manufactured; and in consequence of augmenting exportation the demand for hardware and cutlery was reviving from the state of stagnation in which it had been in since the conclu-

sion of the war. The shipping interest, which had experienced more than a proportional share of the late depression, participated in the general improvement. The agriculturists still complained of their embarrassments; and in January no less than 16 counties had sent requisitions to their sheriffs to call meetings, to consider the causes of their distresses. At these meetings the remedies chiefly suggested were a remission of taxes, a reform of the house of commons, a depreciation of the currency, a commutation of tithe, and an appropriation of the redundant wealth of the church to the public exigencies. The landed interest, however, before the end of summer, began to share in the benefits resulting from prosperous commerce and manufactures, and their political agitation subsided.

Jan. 2. A room opened, in Capel-court, for transacting business in foreign securities, which had been previously conducted on the royal exchange.

3. A meeting at Norwich, on the subject of agricultural distress. A series of resolutions were proposed by Mr. Thurtell and seconded by Mr. Coke, but they were promptly rejected, and a petition, proposed by Mr. Cobbett, was adopted with rapturous acclamations. It recommended an appropriation of part of the church property to the payment of the public debt; a reduction of the standing army; an abolition of sinecures and undeserved pensions; the sale of the crown lands; an equitable adjustment of contracts; the suspension of all legal process, for one year, for the recovery of rent and tithes; and the repeal of the taxes on malt, soap, leather, hops, and candles. A counter-petition was got up by the whigs, and when the two petitions came to be presented to the house of commons, Mr. James was the only member who expressed approbation of the Norwich doctrines of spoliation.

5. Russia, Austria, and Prussia recal their ambassadors from Madrid.

12. The Quakers start a subscription for the relief of the Greeks.

17. A county meeting at Hereford, and Mr. Cobbett's Norfolk petition rejected.

22. Great meeting for parliamentary reform at York: the requisition had been signed by 2000 freeholders.

27. Died, at his house in Bedford-row, in his 86th year, CHARLES HUTTON, LL.D., late professor of mathematics in the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich; a votary of science, who rose to eminence by his own spontaneous exertions. Dr. Hutton was a native of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, where he had been a schoolmaster, and, during a paroxysm of enthusiasm, a preacher among the methodists. Among his scholars

was John Scott, the future lord chancellor. As a proof how little Dr. Hutton's abilities were impaired, either by his literary labours or advanced age, it may be mentioned that, within the last two years of his life, he corrected the intricate computation of Cavendish on the mean density of the earth, and drew up a paper relative to the most appropriate curve for the arches of the projected New London Bridge.

28. Louis XVIII., in his speech to the two chambers, announced the intention of sending 100,000 men into Spain, to put down the constitutional system. "Let Ferdinand VII.," said the king, "be free to give to his people institutions which they cannot hold but from him, and which, by securing their tranquillity, would dissipate the just inquietude of France."

31. Mr. Vansittart, who had made an indifferent chancellor of the exchequer, exchanged that office for the less toilsome one of chancellor of the duchy of Lancaster, and was raised to the peerage, by the title of Lord Bexley: he was succeeded by Mr. Robinson. Mr. Huskisson was made president of the board of trade; and, in his stead, Mr. Arbutnot became first commissioner of the land revenues. These changes were popular, especially among the favourers of free-trade.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—A statement appeared of the votes given for and against ministers on the great questions during the past session of parliament. The results were as follows:—

	For.	Against.
40 counties of England . . . . .	25	37
89 cities and boroughs, open election . . . . .	59	107
99 close cities and boroughs . . . . .	151	12
33 counties, and 66 burghs of Scotland . . . . .	25	11
32 counties of Ireland . . . . .	24	14
33 cities and boroughs of Ireland . . . . .	21	7

Feb. 4. PARLIAMENT opened by commission, the king's illness preventing his attendance. The chief topics of the speech were the improvement of the revenue, and the facilities it would afford for a further remission of taxes. His majesty had deprecated foreign interference in the affairs of Spain; the continued depression of agriculture was lamented; but the prosperity of manufactures and commerce was dwelt on with satisfaction. The addresses passed without much remark, further than an attack on funded property by lord Stanhope, and a forcible denunciation by lord Lansdowne, in the upper, and Mr. Brougham, in the lower house, of the meddling doctrines of the holy alliance.

5. Mrs. Wright, who had been convicted of an irreligious libel, and imprisoned, was brought into the King's-bench to receive further punishment for having, in her defence, persisted to state matters which the court deemed offensive. She was sentenced to be imprisoned in Cold-bath-fields for eighteen months, to pay a fine of 100*l.*, and find security for good behaviour for five years.

13. A meeting of 250 solicitors of the metropolis, to consider of the propriety of securing justice to their clients, by employing only such gentlemen of the chancery bar as had leisure efficiently to attend to the legal business placed in their hands.

27. Meeting at the Mansion-house, to consider the claims of the London clergy to 2*s.* 9*d.* in the pound on the net rental, in lieu of tithes, oblations, &c.

28. An investigation into the state of lord Portsmouth's mind, which occupied seventeen days, terminated; when the jury unanimously pronounced him to be of unsound mind, and incapable of having managed his affairs since 1809.

Duel between the Neapolitan generals, Pepe and Carascosa, near Kew-bridge. They fought with swords: Pepe disabled his opponent by a thrust in the right shoulder.

Mar. 3. M. Manuel suspended for one session from his seat in the chamber of deputies, for language offensive to the ultra-loyalists. Next day he took his place as usual, when a piquet of the national guard refusing to eject him, the gendarmerie were called in, who forced him out. Lafitte, Foy, and other liberal members, to the number of 170, withdrew from the chamber for the remainder of the session, and the supplies for the Spanish war were voted by the supporters of Villele.

4. Mr. Hume moved for a committee to inquire into the state of church property in Ireland. He embodied his views in four resolutions, one of them affirming that the property of the bishops and chapters is public property, subject to the disposition of the legislature, regard being had to existing interests. They were sharply opposed by Mr. Peel and Mr. Plunkett, and negatived without a division.

It appears from an account published by parliament, that six individuals, since the year 1809, have bequeathed sums for the payment of the national debt to the amount of 66,626*l.*

7. A splendid entertainment given at the London-tavern to the Spanish and Portuguese ambassadors, lord William Bentinck in the chair.

14. Died, at Turville-park, near Henley-upon-Thames, in his 85th year, general



DUMOURIER, a name that fills some interesting pages of modern history. He was born of noble though not affluent parents, and was classically educated. His life was one of great vicissitude. He entered the army at 18, and made his first campaign against the same duke of Brunswick whom, in 1792, he drove from the French territory. Unable to guide the revolution, he resorted to the questionable expedient of calling in the aid of foreigners to oppose the republicans, and re-establish the monarchy. Failing in this enterprise, he became an exile, chiefly in England, where he lived on terms of intimacy with many of our nobility, and was an especial favourite of the late duke of Kent. Dumourier was a man of spirit, of quick parts, a warm, frank, and generous nature. His conversation was animated, and, having seen much of the world, diversified with a variety of knowledge, and great discrimination of character.

20. Bank reduced its half-yearly dividend from five to four per cent. The effect on bank stock was excessive; it fell from 236 to 210.

24. Dr. Wollaston elected an associate of the French institute, in the room of the late Dr. Jenner. Out of nine men proposed by the institute for election, from all the learned and talented men in the world, five were Englishmen.

*April 2.* Duke of Angoulême, commander of the French army of the Pyrenees, published an address to the Spaniards, setting forth the motives of the invasion of the Peninsula to be, the suppression of the revolutionary faction which held the king captive, that excited troubles in France, and produced an insurrection in Naples and Piedmont. On the 7th the French crossed the Bidassoa, previously to which Ferdinand and the cortes removed from Madrid to Seville.

4. Elizabeth Bryant and her daughters were tried at the assizes at Taunton, before Mr. Justice Burroughs, for a violent assault on Anne Burgess, a reputed witch. It appeared that the defendants, on a presumption that the prosecutrix had bewitched a child of the elder Bryant, seized her, and inflicted several severe wounds upon her, upon a supposition that drawing blood from the witch would end the charm: this they did under the advice of a pretended conjuror named Baker. The jury found them all guilty, and they were sentenced to four months' imprisonment each.

16. Measures adopted for the suppression of West-end fair and Brook-green fair, owing to the atrocities committed there.

17. PARLIAMENTARY ALTERCATION.—The question of the catholic claims being about to be introduced, sir F. Burdett ex-

pressed his determination of withdrawing from the house of commons, pending the "farce of its annual discussion," and accused Mr. Secretary Canning, who wished the subject to be postponed, of compromising his opinion for sake of office. Mr. G. Bennett questioned the consistency of Mr. Plunkett no less than of Mr. Canning. Mr. Brougham followed up the attack with great vehemence. In a climax of bitter invective he accused Mr. Canning "of being doomed to the disquiet of a divided cabinet—of sitting with his enemies, and pitied by his friends—of succumbing to lord Eldon, and exhibiting the most incredible specimen of monstrous truckling for the purpose of retaining office that the whole history of political tergiversation could furnish."—Here he was interrupted by Mr. Canning rising, in evident warmth, to say, "that is false." A pause ensued, the speaker interfered, and by the dexterity of sir R. Wilson an assurance was obtained that the affair should not be prosecuted out of doors.

24. A mass of papers, including the correspondence with foreign courts relative to Spain, having been laid before parliament, the grand debate on our foreign policy began in the lords. The same subject was taken up in the commons, on the 28th, and was agitated for three successive nights. The general impression seemed to be that ministers had been deficient in energy,—had leaned more to the policy of the confederated despots than the interests of the Spanish patriots; and that if they had seriously felt any indignation against French aggression, it was more from apprehension of danger to the Bourbon government than the Spanish constitution. An amendment, in favour of ministers, was carried, so little laudatory of their conduct, that the opposition, on the suggestion of Mr. Brougham, voted in its favour.

26. *Newcastle Courant* had advertisements announcing 82 farms, containing 20,000 acres, to let.

The length of streets already lighted with gas in the metropolis is 215 miles.

Cabriolets for two persons began to be used in London.

*May 2.* Mr. Peel's currency bill of 1819 came into operation; it had no effect, as the bank, having got a sufficient store of gold, had anticipated the period of commencing specie-payments by two years.

15. Numerous meeting of the friends to the Greek cause, at the Crown and Anchor, Lord Milton in the chair. Animated speeches were made by sir James Mackintosh, lord J. Russell, Mr. Hobhouse, archdeacon Bathurst, &c. The duke of Bedford and Mr. Hunt subscribed 100*l.* each.

16. House of commons passed unanimously a resolution to the effect that it is expedient to adopt measures for ameliorating the condition of the slave-population of the colonies, with a view to their entire emancipation and admission to an equality of civil rights with the rest of the king's subjects. This first and important declaration in favour of the freedom of the African race, was followed up by a circular from lord Bathurst, dated the 28th, to the governors of the West India islands, containing various suggestions for bettering the condition of the negroes.

24. The French entered Madrid.

30. Rebuilding of London-bridge determined on by the court of common council. The estimated expense 300,000*l.*; inclusive of the approaches, 700,000*l.*

June 1. Some quarries of white and green marble have been discovered in the west of Ireland; the first is said to be superior for sculpture to Italian marble.

EXHUMATION. — David Morrison sentenced to seven years' banishment by the Scotch court of justiciary, for violating sepulchres. On his trial Dr. Barclay, a teacher of anatomy, deposed that some bodies became decomposed in a few days, others lasted much longer; in some the features could not be known in 48 hours, while in others they might be recognised for a week; but much depended on the previous illness. In three weeks a subject becomes unfit for the purposes of dissection. In two weeks the outer skin comes off; with it the nails and the hair would be loose, but marks on the body might be identified. Relatives frequently mistaken in the bodies they claimed; and one instance he knew where a body, made of leather, was insisted on as being the one they were in search of.

2. A counter-revolution effected at Lisbon by the military, headed by don Miguel, second son of the king, who is re-established in absolute power. The cortes separated, having previously drawn up a protest against any change in the constitution of the year 1822.

10. The primitive methodists, or "ranters," cause great disturbances at Shrewsbury.

11. A bill passed a third reading in the house of commons, by a majority of eight, for repealing the regulations by which magistrates are empowered to fix the wages of the Spitalfields silk-weavers. The masters were in favour of the repeal, the journeymen against it. Owing to the opposition of the lord-chancellor, the bill was lost for the session, though supported by the earl of Liverpool.

18. Meeting at the London-tavern, in favour of Spanish independence; Mr.

Lambton subscribed 1000*l.*, and sir F. Bardett 500*l.* The common council of London voted 1000*l.* for the same cause, and 1000*l.* to aid the Greeks.

25. A horrid tragedy occurred in London. A dissolute student of law, named Abel Griffiths, being reproved by his father, who refused further supplies, the former seized a brace of loaded pistols, and first shooting his parent, then shot himself. The parricide was buried in the cross-road, and was the last so interred, the act altering the mode of interment of suicides receiving the royal assent in the ensuing month.

July 4. A petition presented to the house of lords, signed by 200 ministers and 2000 persons, against the prosecution of writings against the Christian religion.

10. The French loan of 23,114,516 of rentes, obtained by Rothschild, Brothers and Co., at the rate of 87*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* for every 100 of rentes.

15. Temple of St. Paul's, at Rome, destroyed by fire, from sparks of a chafing-dish, used by plumbers, falling on the timber of the roof.

Engagement with the French before Corunna, when sir R. Wilson and colonel Light, who, with general Quiroga, led on the Spanish constitutionalists, were wounded.

It appears that property in the West Indies, within the last three years, has fallen one-half or one-third in value.

19. Parliament prorogued by commission. The flourishing condition of all branches of commerce and manufactures, and the great abatement in the difficulties of the agriculturists, were dwelt upon in the royal speech. During the session 269 bills received the royal assent, 96 being public and 173 private: 1760 petitions were presented to the house of commons, and 20 select committees were appointed.

28. Several inquests held at the penitentiary, Milbank; 400 persons taken into the infirmary. A too rigid discipline in respect of diet and confinement the assigned causes.

Aug. 3. S. Horrocks, M. P. for Preston, nearly assassinated with a cleaver, by a lunatic and discontented cotton-spinner.

8. Daring burglary at Lambeth-palace; the thieves were disappointed of their prey, as the archbishop, before leaving town, had sent eight chests of plate to his silversmith's for security. The same gang attempted Lambeth-church adjoining, on the 10th, but here, too, they were disappointed, the church plate not being on the premises.

Died, in his 83rd year, Pius VII., a mild and christian character, who had governed the Roman catholic church up-



wards of 23 years. His holiness always dispensed with the ceremony of kissing the great toe when an Englishman was presented to him; it was commuted into a cordial and affectionate embrace.

28. Meeting of bankers and merchants to consider the practicability of forming a chamber of commerce in London.

31. The French surprise and carry the Trocadero, a small island in the harbour of Cadiz.

Sept. 9. Sale of the splendid furniture and rarities of Mr. Beckford, at Fonthill abbey, began and lasted eleven days.

11. DEATH OF DAVID RICARDO, M. P.—This gentleman was in his 52d year, and died of inflammation of the brain, arising from an abscess in the ear. He had recently acquired celebrity as a writer and speaker on subjects of political economy, and was much esteemed for his conciliatory manners. His father was a Dutch merchant and stockbroker, and young Ricardo was educated in Holland, though born in London, for the same pursuits. Displeasing his parent, who was a Jew, by an early marriage with a quakeress, he was left very much to his own resources: his probity and industry, however, obtained him assistance among his father's connexions, and he became a member of the stock exchange. Here his mathematical turn, shrewdness, and intelligence, found appropriate exercise, and he rapidly accumulated immense wealth. As a member of parliament Mr. Ricardo's course was independent, and on questions of currency, finance, and commerce, he was listened to with deference by all parties. By his clear and comprehensive reasonings he helped to confirm in the legislature those liberal ideas of mercantile policy that had been advocated by the leading whigs, and had been recently adopted by a portion of the ministry. His "Principles of Political Economy and Taxation" were highly applauded on their first appearance, as containing a new revelation of economical truths; but subsequently an opinion began to prevail that the author, by a logic too abstract, had been led into some fallacies concerning rent, tithe, wages, and profits, and that Adam Smith's antecedent exposition of those topics was substantially unassailable.

12. London-bridge committee determine to build the new bridge on a new site, but as near as possible to the old one, which will be left standing till the new bridge is finished.

19. A proclamation, giving currency to double sovereigns or two-pound pieces.

Oct. 3. INVASION OF SPAIN.—The surrender, after a short resistance on the 3rd, of Cadiz, the "cradle," as it was consi-

dered, of liberty, terminated with a sort of iniquitous eclat the interference of the French in the affairs of Spain. In five months, without meeting any resistance of consequence, they had overrun the country from the Pyrenees to the Straits of Gibraltar. Their progress was facilitated by the treachery of the Spanish generals—Abisbal, Morillo, and Ballasteros; Mina was almost the only chief who was true to the patriot cause, and who, after receiving an amnesty for his followers, retired into England. The cortes, who had carried along with them, much against his inclination, Ferdinand, from Madrid to Cadiz, liberated him on the 1st instant; when he forthwith issued a proclamation, annulling all the acts of the constitutional government from March, 1820. The proceedings of the cortes had not been free from faults; they had evinced a want of energy, of practical ideas, and unanimity; while on the other hand they had had great difficulties to contend against in the ignorance of the peasantry, and their bondage to the priesthood, and the treacherous intrigues of the French ultras. Only part of the French army evacuated the Peninsula in the course of the year; 40,000 men retaining possession of the fortresses, to guard against reaction.

29. Captain Parry arrived off Shetland, from his exploratory voyage to the Polar regions. He had failed in the chief object of the expedition; and, owing to the unhappy selection of his course, did not proceed so far west, by twenty, nor north by ten degrees, as on his former voyage. Only five men were lost by illness and accidents during the voyage.

The three grand musical festivals, held within the month at Birmingham, York, and Gloucester, produced the large sum of 30,500*l*.

Nov. 7. Riego, the Spanish constitutional general, hung on a gibbet of extraordinary height at Madrid. He met death with firmness, but ascended the ladder with difficulty, in consequence of the swelling of his legs, owing to the fetters he had worn since his arrest.

17. Convention signed at Vienna for the settlement of the Austrian loan, by which the emperor agreed to pay 2,500,000*l*. in satisfaction of the whole British claims.

DEATH OF THOMAS LORD ERSKINE.—This accomplished advocate died on the 17th, in Scotland, where he was born in 1750. He was the third and youngest son of the tenth earl of Buchan, and was educated at Edinburgh. The poverty of his family rendering a profession necessary, he tried first the navy then the army, and did not enter on his legal studies till his

twenty-sixth year. His success at the bar was immediate, and without probation: he was soon in possession of the best second business in the court of king's bench, that is of the business in which the lead is not given to counsel who are not yet arrived at the dignity of a silk-gown. This distinction he obtained in 1783, five years after being called to the bar. Special retainers now poured in upon him; he had soon sixty-six of these off his circuit, each endorsed with a fee of 300 guineas. (*Life of Wilberforce*, ii. 164.) He was in all the great legal causes of the time—of Carnan, the bookseller, admiral Keppel, Warren Hastings, the dean of St. Asaph, and the state trials of 1794. Erskine was by nature an orator; ready, acute, bold, imaginative, with varied powers of elocution; a melodious voice and fine person, combined with manners singularly bland, courteous, and respectful. His eloquence, however, was of a kind that is now rarely heard at the English bar, and perhaps is not the most appropriate to a court of justice; consisting in its leading characteristics of fanciful allusions, sentimental appeals, exclamations, and profusion of ornament. He was a strenuous vindicator of the constitutional rights of juries; and it was to them, rather than the intelligence on the bench, his most successful forensic efforts were addressed. As a senator his abilities and knowledge were secondary; nor did he acquire enduring celebrity as a political writer. He was the author, however, of a pamphlet on the French war of 1793, to which he was strenuously opposed, that speedily ran through forty-eight editions, owing probably to his great professional repute. The time lord Erskine held the great seal was too brief to afford a conclusive test of judicial ability. His public career terminated with the Grenville ministry. Cut off from the emoluments of the bar by the etiquette of a peerage, and with a pension barely adequate to its support, the rest of his life was "bound in storms and shallows,"—wasted in saloons and soirées, in garrulous vanity, and abortive aspirations to literary distinction.

Dec. 27. Plymouth dock having greatly increased in size, is, at the desire of the inhabitants, called "Devonport," and an order to that effect appeared in *The Gazette*.

In the course of this year several streets in London were broken up and re-paved with granite, broken in small angular pieces, according to the suggestion of Mr. M'Adam.

The king presented to the nation the library of George III. at Buckingham-house, consisting of 120,000 volumes.

The society of arts presented Mr. Cob-

bett with a large silver medal, for the discovery of a plat from English grass, which it was thought would supersede Leghorn.

Mr. Bradley has shown that a pair of sparrows, during the time they have their young to feed, destroy on an average every week 3360 caterpillars.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Edward Jenner, M.D., 76, the discoverer of vaccination. John Julius Angerstein, 91, celebrated under-writer, and patron of the fine arts. Mrs. Anne Radcliffe, 62, author of the "Mysteries of Udolpho," and other romances of great ephemeral popularity. Near Lausanne, John Philip Kemble, 66, eminent tragedian. Admiral viscount Keith, 76. Sir Islay Campbell, 89, late president of the court of session, who presided at the trials in 1793, for high treason. Professor Christian, chief justice of Ely, and legal writer: he first established the claim of the universities to eleven copies of every new publication. Joseph Nollekins, R.A., 86, an eminent sculptor, who by habits of strict parsimony amassed 300,000*l*. At Paris, colonel Thornton, 60, a celebrated sportsman of Yorkshire. Sylvester Douglas lord Glenbervie, 80, an Irish peer, well known in official life, and translator of the first cantos of "Ricciardetto," with notes. At Irthington, R. Bowman, 118, a husbandman, who did not marry till he was 50, and then had six sons but no daughters. Wm. Coombe, 83, author of "Tour of Dr. Syntax," &c. John Hope earl of Hoptoun, a distinguished commander in the war of the Peninsula. Robert Bloomfield, 57, author of the "Farmer's Boy," &c. Matthew Baillie, M.D., 63, physician to the late king, and eminent medical writer. At Gato, on his way to Timbuctoo, Belzoni, the enterprising traveller: he was a native of Padua, and well known in London by his stature, which was above six feet and a half. At Magdeburg, a voluntary exile, since the restoration of the Bourbons, M. Carnot, one of the most honest and able of the French republicans. At Rochetts, near Brentford, John Jervis earl St. Vincent, 89, admiral of the fleet, whose fame is identified with the naval victory of February 14, 1797.

A.D. 1824. PROSPERITY AND SPECULATION.—The present period may be aptly compared to the year 1768, when internal peace, unexampled prosperity, and the rank and influence of the nation abroad formed the exulting theme of contemporary writers and future historians. The public hemisphere appeared without cloud, and it was impossible but to look forward to successive years of augmented glory, increasing opulence, and unrivalled domestic improvements. Even country gentlemen had ceased to complain, and agriculture, by a



rise in the price of wheat of full 30 per cent, since 1822, had entirely recovered from its previous depression. This improvement was effected without legislative expedients, which at best could only have afforded temporary relief, by the sacrifice of other interests of the community. The improvement of the landed interest was the natural consequence of the general improvement in the condition of other classes. While the cultivators of the soil enjoyed a comparative monopoly of the home-market, it was impossible but thriving manufactures, increasing population, and a growing foreign trade, should relieve them from embarrassments. Such was the natural remedy of the *agricultural distresses*; it resulted from an augmented power of consumption in the people, that enabled them not only to consume more, but to give a higher price for the produce of the soil. A diminution in public burdens also contributed to the relief of the farmers, and the diffusion of general comfort and prosperity. Twenty millions of taxes had been repealed since the peace, which augmented the incomes of individuals, and the means of industrial activity. Public prosperity was evidenced in the abundance of capital, and consequent low rate of interest. The bank of England reduced the rate of interest on advances, and other great companies followed the example. In the course of the year interest in the money-market had fallen one-half, which induced capitalists to seek foreign investments. There was scarcely a state in the Old or the New World to which loans were not advanced by this country; in France, Spain, Portugal, and South America, hardly a ship or soldier was put in motion, or a mining adventure entered upon, without the aid of English capital. At home a gambling spirit of speculation arose under the pretext of schemes for the employment of money. Every morning gave birth to one or more new projects. Table-beer, ale, and milk-companies; steam-navigation, banking, and insurance companies of various kinds; washing, baking, and new dock companies were a few of the endless varieties under which new and highly-promising speculations were constantly issuing. Many devices afloat were so obviously intended to entrap the unwary, that the legislature interfered to guard the public against their unprincipled contrivers. A resolution passed the house of lords declaring that no bill for the purpose of incorporating any joint-stock company would be read a second time till two-thirds of the proposed capital of the company had been actually subscribed. This checked gambling in the share-market. Amongst the various projects started some useful bodies were incorporated, of which the plan embraced public

works of utility, but they formed a small proportion to the mass of delusive or fraudulent devices, in which a vast amount of real or fictitious capital was lost or locked up in inconvertible enterprises, yielding little or precarious, and distant returns of profit.

Jan. 1. Austrian loan of 2,500,000*l.* brought into the market. The price at which subscribers receive their shares is 82 per cent., to be paid in five instalments.

Iturbide, ex-emperor of Mexico, arrived in England. About six months after he returned to South America, leaving his children in this country, but was arrested at Soto la Morina, and shot, which terminated his rash attempt to recover his throne.

Alexander of Russia has testified his approval of the invasion of Spain, by transmitting the grand cross of the order of St. Andrew to Chauteaubriand, the ultra foreign minister, and strenuous adviser of that enterprise, omitting Villele, president of the council.

##### 5. TRIAL OF THURTELL AND HUNT.—

The trial of these men, at Hertford, for the murder of William Weare, excited great interest, owing to its perfidious and ruffian circumstances. Mr. Weare was a gambler, and connected by similarity of pursuit with Thurtell, Hunt, and Probert. Hunt was a public singer, and had kept a tavern; Probert had been a wine-merchant; John Thurtell was the son of a respectable alderman of Norwich, and had recently been before the public as witness in an action brought by his brother against an insurance-office for the recovery of the loss he had sustained by the burning of his silk-warehouse. The murder was perpetrated on the 24th of last October, in Gills-lane, two or three miles from Elstree. On that day Thurtell had invited Weare down to Probert's cottage, to take the diversion of shooting; on their way thither, in a gig, Thurtell, in a solitary part of the lane, drew out a pistol and fired in the face of his unsuspecting companion, which failing of its purpose, Weare leaped out of the chaise, and was followed by Thurtell, who notwithstanding his cries for mercy despatched him by thrusting the barrel of the pistol into his head, and turning it round in his brain. Probert and Hunt were privy to the intended murder, and shared some of the plunder of the unfortunate man at the cottage of Probert, where they all met after the murder: in the course of the night they went into the lane, put the body of Weare in a sack, and flung it into a pond. The first day of the trial was almost entirely spent in hearing evidence, when the court adjourned till the next, at the request of Thurtell, who then began his defence. It was delivered in theatrical

style, was very bombastic, stuffed with false sentiment, and concluded with a solemn asseveration of innocence. Hunt's defence was read for him, and his feebleness formed a strong contrast with the unabashed demeanour of his accomplice. The jury found both guilty. Thurtell between sentence and execution admitted that justice had been done to him; he met death with the same hardihood he had committed the murder. Hunt's punishment was commuted for transportation for life, on the ground of some promise held out to him by the committing magistrate; Probert was admitted king's evidence, and escaped for this time.

8. At a prize-fight for 600 guineas, between Spring and Langan, on the Worcester race-course, at which 40,000 people are supposed to have been present, a scaffold gave way, by which one person was killed and several were wounded.

9. Will of lord Erskine registered in the prerogative court; the personalty sworn under 1000*l*.

16. The arduous operation of removing the thigh at the hip-joint performed at Guy's hospital, for the first time, by sir Astley Cooper, in the presence of some of the surgeons and students of the institution. The limb was removed in the space of 20 minutes, the securing the arteries and dressing occupied 15 more; the whole was completed in 35 minutes. During the operation the patient was extremely faint; but some wine being given him and fresh air admitted, he recovered.

24. A Latin MS. by Milton discovered in the state-paper office. The subject is religious, and fills 735 pages, many of them closely written, and believed to be in the hand-writing of the poet's nephew, Phillips, with interlineations in a different hand. The situation which Milton held of Latin secretary to Cromwell accounts for such discovery in the state-paper office.

Feb. 1. Died, in his 78th year, at Cheltenham, the reverend sir HENRY BATE DUDLEY, prebendary of Ely, and magistrate for four counties in Ireland, and seven in England. This gentleman established the *Morning Post* and the *Morning Herald*, the latter in 1780, the former a few years previously. He was one of the most original and enterprising spirits of his time, and the associate of Garrick, Colman, Bonnel Thornton, Cumberland, and other wits, and himself the author of several theatrical pieces. As a table companion he had few equals; even the judges sometimes lost their gravity at his sallies, which were rarely offensive. About fifty years ago he obtained much notoriety by his duels with Mr. Bowes, the husband of the countess of Strathmore, and captain Story. (See Jan. 13, 1776.) It is a singular fact that one of

the ladies about whom parson Bate, as he was called, quarrelled, was the beautiful Mrs. Hartley, an actress, who died at Woolwich the same day with himself. We know no similar coincidence, except in the deaths of two very dissimilar characters, namely, of the two American presidents.

3. Parliament opened by commission, owing to the king's indisposition. The royal speech was highly congratulatory on the general prosperity and the order prevalent among all classes of the community. The appointment of consuls to the new states of South America was admitted, and the subject of the slave-population in the West Indies adverted to in guarded terms. Addresses passed in both houses unanimously.

4. A convention between Britain and Austria laid upon the table of the house of commons, by which the former agreed to accept 2,500,000*l*. as a final compensation for claims on the latter power, amounting to 30,000,000*l*.

A subterranean labyrinth discovered near St. Giles's-gate, Norwich, containing marine shells.

5. Mr. Wilberforce, after being elected six times for the county of York, and nearly 40 years its popular representative, retired from parliament. The care of his "black clients," as George III. used to term them, and whom he had long faithfully served without fee, he consigned to Fowell Buxton, M.P.

6. Missionary John Smith died in the gaol of Demerara, where he was waiting the decision of the British ministry on his sentence of death for high treason, in exciting the negroes to rebellion. The royal pardon arrived while the unfortunate man was in the agonies of death.

10. From the quarterly return of the coroner of Manchester, it appeared that out of the numerous cases of death 29 had been owing to intemperance, and 26 to drowning, caused by the effects of intoxication.

Samples of wheat, for which this time last year only 34*s*. per quarter were offered, were sold at Canterbury-market at 80*s*. per quarter.

20. Prospectus of a loan of 800,000*l*. for the aid of the Greeks brought out under the sanction of the Greek committee.

A musical phenomenon appeared in the person of George Aspull, a child only eight years old, who performed the most difficult pieces of Kalbrenner, Moscheles, and Czerny, with great ease and appropriate execution. He likewise sings ballads to his own accompaniment on the piano, in a voice weak, owing to his youth, but with peculiar taste and delicate expression.

22. A bill brought forward by Mr. Peel settles the point that prisoners cannot be



compelled to labour on the tread-wheel before trial and conviction.

23. Mr. Robinson brings forward the annual budget, portraying in glowing terms the general prosperity, and pointedly reprobating the notion of the inability of an unreformed parliament to redeem the country from its difficulties. He announced his intention of reducing the interest of the four per cent. stock to three and a half per cent., by which a saving of 375,000*l.* a-year would be effected to the public.

26. Fire at Pickford's wharf, occasioned by the bursting of a bottle of inflammable liquid, to which a light had been incautiously brought in contact. Damages estimated at 30,000*l.*

The flourishing state of Manchester is evidenced by the fact that 16,000*l.* has been subscribed towards the literary institution of that town.

*March 2.* Revolt of the pacha of Egypt, who had been dispatched by the Turkish government against the Greeks. Patras surrendered to the Greeks. The first number of a newspaper in modern Greek has arrived in England. The type was sent from this country, by the Greek committee.

5. Public meeting to erect a monument, by subscription, to Dibdin, the naval song-writer, who died in indigence.

8. **SILK TRADE.**—House of commons resolved, on the motion of Mr. Huskisson, to reduce the duties on the importation of raw silk, and that after July 5, 1826, the importation of manufactured silk goods should be allowed on the payment of a duty of 30 per cent. The substitution of a prohibitory duty for the absolute prohibition of foreign silk goods tended to the prosperity of the silk trade, though much opposed by the weavers. Prior to this change the trade had been subject to constant fluctuation, and in the absence of foreign competition no improvements had been introduced into the manufacture. It had been the most protected of any branch of industry, and had thriven the least. The reduction of duty on raw silk brought the manufactured article more within the reach of the poorer classes, and less subject to changes of fashion than when confined to the use of the rich. Employment in consequence, after the inconveniences of the transition state had been surmounted, became more uniform and less liable to sudden alternations of prosperity and distress.

9. An important document received from Mexico. It is a decree of the constitutional congress of Mexico, which declares that "the Mexican nation adopts for its government the forms of a representative federal republic."

According to an account presented to

the house of commons, the average amount of public money in the hands of the bank of England last year was 5,526,635*l.* The profit of the bank, at 3 per cent. (the rate which government pays them for the loan of their capital of 15 millions), is therefore upwards of 165,799*l.*, in its capacity of banker to the public departments.

10. The niece of lord Bathurst, while riding near the banks of the Tiber, at Rome, was suddenly thrown into the river by the falling of her horse, and drowned.

11. Public attention excited by the affair of Mr. Battier, late of the 10th hussars. It appears to be the practice of the officers of the 10th "to recruit among themselves," that is, to admit no stranger into the regiment except he be of their choosing. Mr. Battier, who had obtained a cornetcy from the duke of York, without having passed this ordeal, was in consequence sent to Coventry, and refused the acknowledgments usual among gentlemen. The result was that Mr. Battier was obliged to retire on half-pay, which he subsequently forfeited by sending a challenge to the marquis of Londonderry, colonel of the regiment.

15. An address to the king to acknowledge the independence of the South American states, was moved in the lords by the marquis of Lansdowne. It was a subject, he said, of the utmost importance, involving the interests of 21 millions of people, containing within themselves all the elements of future greatness and strength. Lord Liverpool concurred in the principles of the marquis, but differed as to the application of them. Address negatived by 95 to 34.

16. Mr. Canning brought forward the ministerial plan for bettering the condition of the slave-population. It consisted of an experimental attempt, limited to the island of Trinidad, and did not answer the expectations of Mr. Buxton, the leader of the emancipationists.

22. The collection of pictures of the late Mr. Angerstein, thirty-eight in number, purchased by government for 57,000*l.*, as the nucleus of a national gallery. Sir G. Beaumont liberally gave his pictures for the same purpose.

28. On this and the preceding Sunday a gentleman named Robert Taylor, formerly a minister of the established church, lectured in support of Deism, in a place lately used as a theatre, in Grafton-street, Dublin. He harangued the audience from a stage, dressed in canonicals. It passed off quietly the first time, but on the second exhibition he was compelled to retreat behind the scenes.

It is said that ten admirals have died every year during the last ten years. The dry-rot in the shipping, and mortality

among naval commanders, forming alarming symptoms of decline in maritime power.

The standards of weights of foreign countries, which were lately transmitted to England by the British consuls, to be compared with our own, have been deposited at the mint, in the tower.

PARIS.—The annual average of rainy days in Paris is 184. The period of greatest mortality is March and April, of the least August and July. The greatest number of marriages take place in May, the smallest in March and January. Of every hundred works published in Paris, 68 relate to the belles lettres, history, or politics; 20 to the sciences and arts; and 12 to theology and jurisprudence.

April 1. On the appointment of lord Gifford to be master of the rolls, it has been stated there is no precedent of a peer filling that office; there is, however, a precedent for it in the person of lord Bruce, a Scotch peer, who came from Scotland with James I., and filled that office to the time of his death.

At Wexford assizes one of the jury could not agree with his brethren to a verdict of acquittal, when the following stratagem was resorted to. The dissentient wrote down "guilty," then retired, and his brother jurors added "not."

4. Will of Luke White proved, whereby he left 30,000*l.* a-year real estate, and 100,000*l.* in money, to his widow and offspring, after spending 200,000*l.* in elections. To his eldest son, who had offended him, he left only 5000*l.* a-year. Early in life, he had lived by hawking books about the streets.

19. DEATH OF LORD BYRON. — This highly-gifted nobleman was born in 1788, at Dover, and expired at Missolonghi, having generously brought the influence of his renown, his fortune, and his person, to aid in the cause of Grecian independence. His lordship's first publication, under the title of "Hours of Idleness," was not favourably received. The *Edinburgh Reviewers*, who wielded the critical sceptre with great force, described the poetry of the "young lord" as of a kind which neither gods nor men can tolerate. It is likely that the youthful aspirant—for he was then a minor—being robust enough in intellect to outlive this Scotch discipline, that it operated more favourably in the future development of his powers than if he had received indiscriminate and undeserved praise. Accordingly his next publication exhibited a marvellous improvement—originality, imagination, strength, character, and much beauty of composition. From the time of the publication of the first two cantos of "Childe Harold's Pilgrimage," in 1812, Byron became a sub-

ject of almost European concernment. Every fresh production of his pen was looked forward to with impatience, was read with avidity, interested all hearts, and occupied almost all literary journalists in the analysis of its merits. The interest excited by his genius was heightened by his eccentricity; his contempt for established opinions and institutions; his pride and misanthropy; his unhappy marriage and separation; his reckless dissipation; his wanderings in the East, and voluntary exile from England. After a brief but intoxicating career he perished untimely, ere he had explored a very wide and diversified field of literary glory. Possessing a noble thirst for fame, an intense and glowing soul, an intellect acute, energetic, active, and observing, it is impossible to divine what he might have become had length of days been vouchsafed to him. As it is he has left splendour remains, often debased by affectation, tawdriness, and extravagance. His dramas were failures, the rest are fragments drawn from the well-spring of his own mind; personifications of his own real or would-be characters, and not very inviting philosophy. One besetting sin does, and always ought to detract from the interest of his poetical creations—they want *moral beauty*. All his characters are unamiable; they are proud, vindictive, sensual, scornful, selfish, satanic beings; there is also a want of truth and keeping in them; for though depicted as possessing strength, energy, devotedness, and fidelity, they must, as creatures of mere animal passion and impulse, have been weak, fickle, vain, and inconstant. His lordship was a good satirist; he had the scorn, hate, and enviousness of one. In high life, in particular, he was a regular Mephistopheles, with very alarming powers of suggestion and penetration. The poet married, in 1815, the only daughter of sir Ralph Milbanke Noel, with a large fortune, which he soon spent. By this lady he had an only child and heiress. He was succeeded in his title and estates by his cousin, captain Byron, of the navy.

May 1. An entire skeleton of a mammoth discovered at Ilford, in Essex. It lay buried at the depth of sixteen feet, in a quarry of diluvial loam and clay, used for bricks.

12. For a wager of 600 guineas six officers of the guards rowed from Oxford to Whitehall, in a six-oared boat, against wind and tide, in five hours and forty-five minutes.

15. An inquest held on a man at Winchester, whose death was caused by suffocation, from a spontaneous enlargement of the tongue. The deceased was in every respect healthy, till within about twenty



hours of his dissolution, when he complained of a soreness on his tongue, and said he thought it was swelling, which proved to be the case, and it continued to enlarge, until, in spite of all medical aid, it reached such an enormous size as to cause death by suffocation. The body was opened, but not the slightest cause could be found for this extraordinary malady.

25. Mr. Harris, accompanied by a female named Stocks, ascended in a balloon from the City-road. After pursuing their course in safety some time, on endeavouring to let out the gas for their descent, some impediment prevented the re-closing of the valve, and the too rapid escape of the air precipitated them to the earth, near Croydon. The man was killed by being dashed against a tree, and the female was dreadfully stunned, but recovered.

31. Earl Grey brought forward, in the lords, the petition of the roman catholics of Ireland. The catholic body had now altered their complaints; they no longer placed emancipation in the front of their grievances, but demanded, as more important preliminaries, a reform in the temporalities of the protestant church, a better regulation of juries, and the disfranchisement of municipal corporations. A petition of similar import was presented by Mr. Brougham, in the commons. Both the peer and commoner expressed their dissent from the new claims of the catholics.

June 1. Mr. Brougham moved for an inquiry into the proceedings at Demerara against missionary Smith: they had drawn forth numerous petitions, and excited much commiseration for the sufferer; but after a debate of two days the motion was negatived.

7. Five of Carlile's shopmen sentenced to various terms of imprisonment, from three years to six months, for selling Paine's "Age of Reason."

9. Sir W. Congreve's rocket-factory, at West Ham, exploded. The explosion was occasioned by a spark struck off in nailing up a case in the finishing-room. Two lives were lost.

Project started for forming a ship-canal between the Bristol and the British channels, to avoid the dangerous navigation round the Land's-end. Annual loss of lives in effecting that passage estimated at 200.

10. A conversation to-day, in the Old Bailey, respecting lawyers' fees. Mr. Adolphus said, "lawyers never returned fees. Counsel could not recover fees, and once paid they were never returned. The profession of the law was not to be regarded on the same footing with a mere trade." Mr. Alley, on the other side, said, he

"knew not what the practice of other gentlemen might be; but he pledged his honour that he never neglected to return a fee if anything prevented him attending to the interests of his client."

15. Petitions presented from the great mercantile houses of London, Leeds, and Liverpool, praying for a recognition of the independence of the new states of South America.

Meeting at Freemasons'-tavern, to erect a monument to James Watt, as a tribute of national gratitude, the earl of Liverpool in the chair. The king subscribed 500*l*.

18. The head of sir Thomas More, who was executed by Henry 8th, discovered in a box, at St. Dunstan's church, Canterbury.

25. Bank of England resolved to lend money, at 4*l*. per cent. interest, on government securities, or on bank stock; the lowest sums advanced to be 5000*l*.

Parliament prorogued by the king. The session had been popular, and signalized by the abandonment of the duty on law proceedings, the repeal of the combination laws, attempts to consolidate the criminal laws, and improve the condition of the slave-population. It was also remarkable for the absence of party violence, the conciliatory tone of ministers, and the manifestation of a patriotic spirit of national improvement.

Notwithstanding the excellence of the instruments, and the talents of the surveyors, it appears from the recent verification of Dr. Tiarks, that as to all places on the south coast of England, 1'' of longitude for every 4' of longitude westward of Greenwich, requires to be added to the results of the Trigonometrical Survey, in order to obtain its true longitude.

30. Company established at Merton, for washing linen by steam.

WAR WITH THE ASHANTEES.—Disastrous intelligence arrived this month from the British colony at Cape Coast Castle. A war had commenced with the Ashantees, a nation formidable from their ferocious valour, and a certain degree of civilization that placed them almost on a level with Algerines. Hostilities originated in the protection we had afforded to the Fantees, with whom the Ashantees had been at war, and driven for shelter into the British settlement. In the beginning of January sir Charles McCarthy, the governor of Sierra Leone, set out to penetrate to Coomassie, 250 miles distant, and the capital of Ashantee. Before he had formed a junction with major Chisholm, as he intended, he was attacked with great fierceness by the enemy, his retreat intercepted, himself slain, and the greatest part of his force, amounting to 2000 men, were massacred or taken prisoners. Emboldened by

their success, the Blacks descended to the shore, with a full determination to drive the English and their native auxiliaries into the sea. But here they were checked by the aid of intrenchments, the strength of the castle, and the able dispositions of colonel Sutherland. This, however, was effected with great loss on our part, and in July the colony was reduced to extremity, when sir John Phillimore arrived, with military stores, and a reinforcement. The Ashantees retired into their own country, threatening to renew the war in the spring.

July 1. Thomas Thurtell, brother of the murderer, sentenced to two years' imprisonment, for a fraudulent attempt to obtain insurance-money from the county fire-office.

6. Lord Byron's will proved in Doctors' commons; John Cam Hobhouse and John Hanson, of Chancery-lane, executors. His personal estate in England sworn under 10,000*l*. The will is dated July 29, 1815, and with the exception of a bequest of 1000*l*. each to his lordship's executors, is made solely in favour of Mrs. Leigh, his lordship's sister, and her children. A codicil, dated November 17, 1818, bequeathed to his executors, in trust, 5000*l*. for the benefit of Allegra Byron, an infant, twenty months old, whom his lordship had protected, to be paid to her at twenty-one years of age, "provided she does not marry a native of Great Britain."

10. Henry Baring, M. P., recovered 1000*l*. damages from captain Webster, in an action of *crim. con.* Defendant had suffered judgment to go by default.

12. Remains of lord Byron conveyed from London, to be deposited in Newstead abbey.

Body of James II. discovered in a leaden box, on digging the foundation of a new church at St. Germain, Paris.

The *Fame*, Indiaman, was lost by fire, when sir Stamford Raffles, late governor of Bencoolen, with his family, narrowly escaped, with the loss of a valuable collection in literature and natural history, intended to illustrate the history of Sumatra.

14. The arrival of the king and queen of the Sandwich islands caused much public interest. It was rumoured that the voyage had been undertaken to obtain the protection of England against the encroachments of Russia in the South seas. The queen unfortunately caught the measles, of which she died, which event was followed by the death of her consort, four days after. The bodies of both were sent to Owhyhee, to be interred.

16. A new and improved scale for victualling the navy: in addition to the usual allowance of meat, vegetables, &c.,

it includes a portion of wine, beer, and coffee; *banyan days* are abolished, and 2*s.* per month added to the pay, in lieu of spirits.

New society of christians formed at Manchester, one of whose tenets is to abstain from animal food, and live entirely on vegetables. Their practice is founded on a literal interpretation of the scriptural injunction, "Thou shalt not kill."

Aug. 3. Will of Napoleon, in French and English, is registered in Doctors' commons, and a probate granted to count Montholon, one of the executors, his personal effects in England being sworn under the value of 600*l*.

13. Lord Gifford decided, in the court of chancery, that letters written confidentially, cannot be published in this country by the party to whom addressed, without the writer's consent.

Trade of Rochdale has increased so much that of flannels and baizes about 20,000 pieces of 46 yards each, are manufactured weekly. The activity of the Nottingham trade is without precedent; the net lace, bought by French dealers, is immense. This net, in France, is ingeniously worked up with silk or cotton patterns, which, when sent back to England, fetches a high price.

Sept. 1. This was the hottest day of summer; the thermometer in the shade, at two o'clock, was at 89 degrees Fahrenheit. Several horses dropped down in the stages from the heat. In Holland the heat was more intense; at the Hague the thermometer stood at 92½ degrees in the shade.

8. The *Gazette* without a bankrupt.

16. Died, in his 69th year, and the tenth of his reign, Louis XVIII. of France. He was brother of Louis XVI., who was beheaded, of the duke of Berri, who was assassinated, and of Charles X. who succeeded him, and was driven from the throne. The late king possessed most of the qualities which in private life constitute an agreeable companion—an amiable temper—considerable colloquial powers—much acquired information—and a keen relish of social enjoyments, especially those of the table. Though professedly a good catholic, and partial to the ancient system, he evinced, subsequent to his second restoration, more discretion than some of his ultra advisers in his efforts to re-establish it. Louis was the author of several literary trifles, of no great merit, one an account of his journey, or rather flight to Coblenz, which Talleyrand characterized as the "Journey of Harlequin, who is always afraid and always hungry."

23. Died, in his 84th year, at his house, in Burton-crescent, Major CARTWRIGHT, a gentleman who for half a century had la-



boured, with great singleness and honesty of purpose, in the cause of political reformation. So early as 1775 he published a tract, "American Independence the Glory and Interest of Great Britain." He founded, with the aid of Dr. Jebb and Granville Sharpe, the "Society for Constitutional Information." During the last seven years the Major had taken a leading part among the radicals in the advocacy of universal suffrage and annual parliaments. He was a reformer on the basis of prescription, derived from some remote period of Anglo-Saxon history, rather than of the natural rights of man. In his last moments he expressed his confidence in the final triumph of his hopes, but said that it could only be "effected by virtuous instruments, which he hoped time would supply."

29. Charles X. abolished the censorship on the press, which made the commencement of his reign popular.

Mr. Sadler, in descending with his balloon near Blackburn, struck against a chimney, and shortly after fell to the ground, by which he was killed.

Oct. 1. New academy in Edinburgh opened; 400 boys were present. Sir Walter Scott, in an able speech, dilated on the advantages of a good education, and touched upon the leading features of the institution.

2. Club of water-drinkers established in Lancashire; they sit round a table, on which is placed a jug of water, from which the members drink in succession. It seems to have been the beginning of temperance societies.

Town of Wetherby, the property of the duke of Devonshire, has been sold in 174 lots. The English estates of the late marquis of Ormonde were publicly sold, being the largest ever disposed of by auction. They were sold in three lots, and produced 315,800*l.*, exclusive of the timber.

24. New York papers contain accounts of the enthusiastic reception given to Lafayette, on his arrival in that country. The veteran republican paid a visit to Joseph Buonaparte, at his retreat near Trenton.

30. Mr. Fauntleroy, a banker, in partnership with Marsh, Tracey, and Co., tried at the Old Bailey, and found guilty of forging a power of attorney for the transfer of stock. The case excited interest, owing to the enormous extent of the forgeries committed—about a quarter of a million—and the respectability of the delinquent. An attempt was made to arrest judgment on a point of law, but unsuccessfully. At the bar he struck by his high-bred appearance, but failing to obtain pardon his courage forsook him, and at the scaffold he presented a sad spectacle of agony and despair.

Nov. 8. The *Columbus*, an American timber-ship, of gigantic dimensions, arrived in the Thames. It is 300 feet in length, 50 broad, 30 deep in the hold, and measures 3900 tons, being upwards of 1000 tons larger than any ship in the British navy. It is flat-bottomed, and the bottom two feet wider than the deck. This enormous floating-barge brought over 6300 tons of timber, but it was lost on the return voyage.

23. Lord Chancellor refused an injunction to restrain Mr. Fletcher from preaching in Albion-chapel, Moorfields. He had been suspended from his functions by the synod of the secession church of Scotland for a breach of promise of marriage.

*Gazette* contains a notice of an intended application to parliament for a bill to erect a superb quay along the north shore of the Thames, having a foot and carriage-way from Whitehall to Blackfriars-bridge.

Dec. 20. Mr. Abernethy, having applied for an injunction to restrain the proprietor of *The Lancet* from publishing his lectures in that periodical, it was refused, on the ground of the lecturer not being able to produce the manuscript from which his lecture had been delivered, whereby it might be identified: thus negating a claim to copyright in any extemporary discourse not previously written out.

21. Miss Foote, a favourite actress, obtained 3000*l.* damages against Mr. Hayne, for breach of promise of marriage.

STEAM-GUN.—This invention, by Mr. Perkins, was among the most popular of the mechanical discoveries of the year. It is formed by introducing a barrel into the steam-generator of any engine, and, by the addition of two pipes towards the chamber of the gun, introducing a quantity of balls, which by the action of a handle in the chamber are dropped into the barrel, and fired, one by one, at the rate of from 400 to 500 balls in a minute. The explosive force of the steam is such that a musket-ball fired against an iron plate, at the distance of 100 feet from the gun, is completely flattened.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—On the river Gambia, of the African fever, Thomas Bowdich, 30, author of an interesting account of a mission to the Ashantees. Of apoplexy, while sitting at his desk, Joseph Marryatt, M.P., chairman of the committee at Lloyd's. James earl Cornwallis, bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, 81. At Florence, Aloisa de Stolberg, 72, relict of James Stuart, grandson of James II., and the subject of Alfieri's amorous idolatry and eulogies. Rev. John Lempriere, author of the "*Bibliotheca Classica*," &c. Eugene Beauharnois, 42, son-in-law of Napoleon, by his first wife, Josephine, and an able military commander. John Davy, 59, author of "*The Bay of*

Biscay," "May we ne'er want a Friend," and some operas. Thomas Maurice, 70, author of "Indian Antiquities." Lord Coleraine, 73, better known in fashionable life as colonel Hanger, and the author of several pamphlets. At Paris, duke of Cambaceres, 70, ex-arch-chancellor of the empire: he was immensely rich, having an income of 400,000 francs; Cambaceres left his auto-biography behind him, which has been published. Richard Payne Knight, an eminent Greek scholar and munificent benefactor to the British Museum. Francis Maseres, M.A., F.A.S., 93, cursor baron of the exchequer, and miscellaneous writer: the baron was never married; he possessed vast stores of information, and spent large sums of money in the publication of his own works, and those of other writers. Capel Lofft, 73, a constitutional lawyer of varied acquirements in mathematics, classics, poetry and criticism: Mr. Lofft was a profuse contributor to the periodical press; in 1815 he appeared before the public as the legal advocate of Napoleon, and endeavoured to prove that his deportation to St. Helena was contrary to law as well as policy. At Chiswick, William Sharp, 73, an eminent engraver, and remarkable for credulity, being a believer in Brothers, Wright, Bryan, Southcott, and other pretended prophets, who appeared in his time. Robert Charles Dallas, 73, miscellaneous writer; his last work, "Recollections of Lord Byron." Sir James Bland Lamb, 73, better known as sir James Burgess, and of considerable contemporary notoriety in politics and literature; he was the founder, in concert with another under-secretary of state, of the *Sun* newspaper, sanctioned by Mr. Pitt. William Lowry, F.R.S., 62, a distinguished artist and man of intelligence. Rev. R. C. Maturin, the eccentric curate of St. Peter's, Dublin, and author of the tragedy of "Bertram." Thomas Russell, 85, admiral of the white, a true and able British seaman. Rev. Dr. Cartwright, brother of major Cartwright, and author of several ingenious mechanical inventions. In the Crimea, the celebrated baroness Valerie de Krudener, 59, the idol of fashion at the court of Berlin, in 1798, but who became a penitent Magdalen, and whose religious enthusiasm prevailed over the reason of Alexander emperor of Russia. She is said to have originated the celebrated compact of the Holy Alliance.

A.D. 1825. FOREIGN LOANS AND JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES.—The general prosperity was such that money or credit could be obtained for every enterprise, and the natural consequence of universal confidence was a general tendency to over-trading and speculation. Besides an infinite number

of domestic undertakings, in which the country had embarked, and which enhanced the prices of labour and commodities, a vast field of adventure had opened in South America. This partly arose from the determination of the English ministry to recognise the independence of the transatlantic states, and to appoint *chargés des affaires* to Columbia, Mexico, and Buenos Ayres. Peru, Chili, and Guatemala, it was anticipated, would also be soon similarly treated, and raised to the rank of independent nations. The conduct of government inspired confidence in individuals, who ceased to have any hesitation in advancing loans to the new governments, or in embarking in mining and other ventures. The money sent out of the country, a large portion of which was lost, was immense. The instalments paid on foreign loans, mining shares, and other speculations, in 1825, were estimated to amount to 17,582,773*l*. Those on foreign loans only amounted to 11,304,623*l*, and were as follow:—

£.		£.
1,000,000	{ Brazilian loan of 1824 . . }	350,000
2,000,000	Ditto, 1825 . .	1,500,000
3,500,000	Danish do. . .	2,625,000
2,000,000	Greek do. . .	1,130,000
1,428,571	Guatemala do. .	357,143
400,000	Guadalajara . .	240,000
3,200,000	Mexican . . .	2,872,000
2,500,000	Neapolitan . .	1,750,000
616,000	Peruvian . . .	480,000

The mania for JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES was incredible. In 1824 and the beginning of the present year, 276 companies had been projected, of which the aggregate capital, *on paper*, was 174,114,050*l*. Of these companies 33 were for canals and docks; 48 railroads; 42 gas; 6 milk; 8 supply of water; 4 coal-mines; 34 metal-mines; 20 insurances; 23 banking; 12 navigation and packets; 3 fisheries; 2 newspapers; 2 tunnels under the Thames; 3 for the embellishment of London; 2 sea-water baths; the rest miscellaneous. However absurd many of these projects, the shares of several rose to enormous premiums, especially the mining adventures in South America. The madness prevailing, and the sanguine anticipations of inordinate gain, will be manifest from the following statement of the market-prices of the shares in five of the principal mining companies, at two periods, December 10, 1824, and January 11, 1825:—

	Dec. 10.	Jan. 11.
Anglo-Mexican . .	33 <i>l</i> . pr. .	158 <i>l</i> .
Brazilian . . .	10 <i>s</i> . dis. .	66 <i>l</i> .
Colombian . . .	19 <i>l</i> . pr. .	82 <i>l</i> .
Real del Monte .	550 <i>l</i> . . .	1350 <i>l</i> .
United Mexican .	35 <i>l</i> . . .	1550 <i>l</i> .



On all the shares only 10% had been paid, except the Real del Monte, on which 70% had been paid. The adventurers obviously anticipated as rich a harvest as Pizarro and Cortes, and that without fighting, merely by the power of British capital, skill, and machinery.

Jan. 1. The following is the number of the French clergy:—Archbishops and bishops, 75; vicars-general, 287; titular prebendaries, 725; honorary prebendaries, 1253; curates, 2828; vicegerents, 22,225; vicars, 5936; priests resident in parishes, or authorised to preach and confess, 1850; priests, being masters and professors in seminaries, 876; pupils, 4044; monks and others, 19,271.

6. Some memoirs, which had circulated as the autobiography of Fouché, the late French minister of police, ascertained in the *Cour Royale*, on the testimony of his sons, to be spurious.

7. On Saturday night, colonel Stanhope, brother of earl Stanhope, was found hanging from a beam in an outhouse, at Caen Wood, the seat of his father-in-law, the earl of Mansfield. The loss of his wife, two years previously, and a painful and incurable wound received at the storming of St. Sebastian, were the alleged causes of suicide. The colonel was in his 39th year, and remarkably pious.

9. The message of the American president arrived in town, containing a flattering picture of the prosperity of the United States. The Americans seem as eager to embark in joint-stock companies as the English. One New York paper contains a list of twenty-eight projected concerns, the capital to be set apart for which is ten millions of dollars.

17. Alderman Cox recovers 800% damages for *crim. con.* against Edmund Kean, the popular tragedian.

Only eleven persons executed last year at the Old Bailey, supposed to be a smaller number than ever known.

24. In the *Times* and *Morning Chronicle* newspapers advertisements appeared of thirty-five new joint-stock companies.

26. Part of the floor of the long room of the Custom-house gave way with a terrible crash: the desks on each side were left standing. Government commenced proceedings against Peto, the contractor; damages laid at 200,000%.

Feb. 3. Parliament opened by commission. Contentment and the thriving condition of all classes formed the leading topics of the royal speech. Ireland shared in the general prosperity; but the prevalence of dangerous associations was lamented. Allusion was made to the war in India, which, it was alleged, had been provoked by the aggressions of the Burmese.

Addresses were unanimously voted in both houses.

10. Mr. Goulburn moved for leave to bring in a bill to suppress the Catholic Association of Ireland. After a debate of four days the motion was carried by 278 to 123; and the third reading of the bill, on the 25th, by a majority of 130. Directed by counsellor O'Connell, its proceedings had for some time been a source of annoyance to ministers, by levying large sums under the name of voluntary contributions, and assuming to be the representative and protector of the catholic population. The language used by Mr. O'Connell was such, that the attorney-general held him to bail; but the indictment preferred against him was thrown out by the grand-jury.

The number of petitions this session for private bills amounts to 371; 22 are for railways, and 36 for new companies. During the war and high prices the majority of private bills were for enclosing commons.

28. A fatal pugilistic encounter between two Eton scholars, the hon. F. A. Cooper, a son of the earl of Shaftesbury, and Mr. Wood, a son of colonel Wood, and nephew of the marquis of Londonderry. Cooper, the boy killed, was under fifteen, his opponent near seventeen years of age. Between the rounds their school-fellows plied them with brandy, which doubtless helped to produce the unhappy catastrophe. A coroner's jury brought in a verdict of manslaughter against Wood, and his second, Wellesley; but, no witnesses appearing on the trial, they were acquitted.

The last contract for STATE LOTTERIES was concluded this day with the chancellor of the exchequer. They have existed in this country, as a branch of the public revenue, for upwards of 150 years.

A convention signed at Petersburg between Russia and Britain, settling the limits of their respective possessions on the north-west coast of America.

Mar. 1. Kent East Indianman destroyed by fire in the bay of Biscay. It arose from the accidental ignition of a cask of spirits. Out of 642 persons on board, 85 were lost.

Sir F. Burdett's resolutions for the relief of the Irish catholics carried by a majority of 247 to 234. Sir Francis presented a petition, 100 feet in length, praying for catholic emancipation.

2. First stone of a tunnel under the Thames laid at Rotherhithe.

14. Colonel Berkeley assaulted Mr. Judge, editor of the *Cheltenham Journal*, with a hunting-whip, owing to some reflections made by the editor on the conduct

of the colonel in the affair of *Foot v. Hayne*. The editor recovered, at the Hertford assizes, 500*l.* damages for the outrage.

14. Proprietors of India stock, after a discussion of several days, resolved "That there was no ground to impute corrupt motives to the conduct of the late governor-general, the marquis of Hastings."

29. The lord chancellor declared, in the case of the Real del Monte company, that the holders of shares in any of the new companies were liable to the debts of the concern to the full extent of their property.

*Apr.* 4. Mr. Brougham elected lord-rector of the university of Glasgow: his opponent, sir Walter Scott, lost the election by the casting vote of sir J. Mackintosh. The new lord-rector, who had been a citizen of Edinburgh twenty years ago, was honoured with the largest public dinner ever provided in that city.

6. At the sale of a library at Hythe Voltaire's works were purchased by the methodists to be burnt, which was done next day.

9. William Probert, the accomplice of Thurtell, found guilty of horse-stealing: he was sentenced to be hung, and executed at Newgate. (See *Jan.* 5, 1824.)

25. The duke of York, in the house of lords, pointedly declared against the concession of the catholic claims, and expressed his determination always to oppose them. "Twenty-eight years," he said, "had elapsed since the subject was first agitated; that its agitation had been the source of the illness which clouded the last ten years of his father's life; and that, to the last moment of his existence, he would adhere to his protestant principles—So help him God!"

*May* 9. Mr. Stewart Wortley's bill, for legalising the sale of game, lost in the lords.

13. A grant of 2000*l.* made to Mr. M'Adam for his improvements in road-making.

14. Pressure of business so great in the house of commons that eight committees sat in one room, the smoking-room.

17. Catholic relief bill, which had passed the commons, was rejected in the lords by a majority of 178 against 130. A bill introduced for the disfranchisement of the 40*s.* freeholders was in consequence withdrawn.

31. Mr. John Williams, in an able speech, brought under the notice of the house of commons the abuses of the court of chancery. Several petitions had been presented, complaining of the delay and expense of proceedings in that court.

IRELAND.—A committee of the lords sat this and in the preceding session to inquire

into the general state of Ireland. They made only a meagre report, but collected a valuable mass of evidence, which threw great light on the condition of the rural population. It showed that they lived in the most wretched state, without property, or the means of acquiring property, barely sustaining animal existence by a very insufficient quantity of food of the most wretched kind. In this state of misery they were the absolute slaves of their landlords; and their indigence and degradation were increased still further by the mode of collecting tithes, their abject bondage to their own priests, and a defective administration of justice by the local tribunals.

LONDON UNIVERSITY.—Mr. Campbell, the poet, in a letter to Mr. Brougham, proposed to establish a new university in the neighbourhood of London. The idea of such an institution is not founded on any alleged deficiency in the educational courses of the existing universities, but on their distance from the metropolis, and consequent expense of the instruction afforded by them. An establishment in the vicinity of London would offer to a numerous class of students the convenience of residing with their parents, and the advantages of collegiate education. The cost of the undertaking is estimated at 150,000*l.*

SALARIES OF THE JUDGES.—A measure has been introduced by the chancellor of the exchequer for augmenting the salaries of the judges, and prohibiting the sale of offices in courts of justice. In lieu of fees and emoluments, the salaries of the judges have been fixed as follows:—chief-justice of the King's-bench, 10,000*l.*; chief-justice of the Common-pleas, 8000*l.*; master of the Rolls, 7000*l.*; chief-baron of the exchequer, 7000*l.*; vice-chancellor, 6000*l.*; twelve puisne judges, each 5500*l.*

*June* 15. First stone of the new London-bridge laid by lord-mayor Garratt; John Rennie, F.R.S., architect.

27. A petition to the commons, from a widow, complained that, of 1400*l.* left to her by her husband in 1809, 300*l.* had been claimed by his creditors, and the remaining 1100*l.* had been swallowed up in chancery; leaving petitioner a pauper in Greenwich workhouse.

*July* 6. PARLIAMENT protogued by commission. The session had been laborious in discussion, but not remarkable for legislation; except by the repeal of the statutes against the combinations of workpeople, relaxation in our colonial policy, the improvement and consolidation of the laws relating to juries and bankrupts, principal and factor.

19. Thermometer, at one o'clock, stood



at 86 degrees at the Royal Exchange, and afterwards reached 91 in the shade. Owing to the oppressive heat several horses died from exhaustion in the streets of the metropolis.

A curious conversation in the court of chancery, in which lord Eldon said, counsel "now take fees with both hands." Differences had arisen between the barristers and solicitors; the latter wishing the better to secure the attendance of counsel, to compel them to make their election either to confine themselves to the court of the vice-chancellor or the lord-chancellor.

26. **LION-FIGHTS.**—This exhibition took place in the suburbs of Warwick. It was a match between Wombwell's large lion, Nero, and six dogs of the bull-and-mastiff breed, three dogs to be slipped at once. Immense sums were paid to see the combat; but the lovers of brutal sports were disappointed of their banquet: the lion would not fight; he seemed more disposed for play than battle; and only used his paws, never his mouth, though much lacerated by his assailants. A match was next made with a smaller lion, Wallace, more ferocious. The inequality of power in this case deprived the combat of interest: the monarch of the forest caught up his puny antagonists in his huge jaws, as a cat would a mouse or cockchafer, and instantly destroyed or disabled them. Those not so served escaped in a fright from the den; so that the second, like the first experiment, was a failure.

Aug. 3. Riot at Sunderland, occasioned by disputes between the seamen and ship-owners. Five persons killed by the firing of the military.

16. Monument erected, near Carmarthen, to the memory of sir Thomas Picton, who fell at Waterloo.

18. The rage for joint-stock companies has extended to France. At Paris a numerous association has been formed, under the name of *Société commanditaire de l'Industrie*; the object of which is to supply funds for every enterprise, commercial, agricultural, or manufacturing.

19. A meeting of shopkeepers in London determined to close their shops at eight o'clock in winter and nine in summer, in order to afford their clerks and shopmen better opportunity for intellectual improvement.

**GYMNASTIC EXERCISES.**—The general prosperity turned attention to various modes of improving individual and social life. During the summer professors Elias and Vogel arrived from Berlin, with a view of engrafting on English education the German practice of gymnastic exercises. Their aim was not only to promote health and strength, but to give locomotive power and exterior grace to the human form, by giving

instructions in leaping, walking running, and skating. They met with great encouragement; and several establishments were opened in the metropolis and vicinity for morning and evening exercises.

22. Mr. Clark, chemist, who had detected an extensive adulteration of flour with plaster-of-Paris and ground bones, at Hull, produced sugar before the lord-mayor, containing one-half common salt.

31. Trial for the murder of M. Paul-Louis Courier, who was shot in a wood near his country-seat, came on at Tours. Courier was a man of talent, who had distinguished himself by his satirical writings against the noblesse, the ultras, and fanatics of France. He had been twice imprisoned; and his death was at first ascribed to political revenge. At the instigation of his widow (a woman twenty-two years of age) the forest-keeper was apprehended and tried, but acquitted. Disclosures were elicited during the trial, not very creditable to Madame Courier, who had suggested the apprehension of the forest-keeper in retaliation for a suspicion she entertained that he had been placed to watch over her intrigues. The deceased was in his 53rd year.

Sept. 14. At the launch of the princess Charlotte, at Portsmouth, a vast crowd assembled on one of the bridges erected near a floodgate, which giving way, they were precipitated into the water, and sixteen persons drowned.

Oct. 21. The steam-boat, *Comet*, with passengers from Inverness, was run down off Kempoch-point, in the Clyde, by the steam-boat *Ayr*. The vessels came in contact with such force that the *Comet* went down instantly, with eighty passengers on board, of whom only eleven were saved. The *Ayr* had a light on her bow; the *Comet* had not. The master of the *Comet* was subsequently tried for culpable negligence, and sentenced to three months' imprisonment.

27. The *Baron of Rensfrew*, from Quebec, driven on the coast of France, where she went to pieces. She was longer than the *Columbus*, having a cargo of timber amounting to 9515 tons, and measured 309 feet in length, 80 in width, and 57 feet deep externally, 37 feet internally.

Nov. 14. Mr. and Mrs. Graham ascended in a balloon from Plymouth, and fell into the sea, whence they were rescued, and landed at Stonehenge.

Dec. 1. In an action, *Popple v. Stockdale*, for printing the "Memoirs" of a noted courtesan, Harriette Wilson, Mr. justice Best directed the plaintiff to be non-suited, on the ground of the immoral tendency of the work; therefore refusing all claim to compensation for labour so employed.

**DEATH OF THE CZAR OF RUSSIA.**—The emperor Alexander, who was in the 48th year of his age, and the 25th of his reign, expired, of an attack of erysipelas, on the 1st instant, at Taganrog, on the sea of Azoff. His last moments were serene. Some hours before dying he caused the blinds of his windows to be opened; and exclaimed, while looking on the cloudless sky of the Crimea, "What a lovely day!" Alexander was a noble, an accomplished, and benevolent prince, who sincerely desired the good of his people. Zealous in his efforts to promote the commercial interests of Russia, to emancipate the serfs, and introduce popular education into his vast empire, the chief blot of his reign had been his meddling foreign policy, in which he had sought to prescribe despotic forms of government to the continental states. Napoleon, who had good reasons for his dislike of Alexander, said of him, more spitefully than truly, that he was "Faux, fin et fourbe comme un Grec du bas empire." He was succeeded by his brother Nicholas. The grand duke Constantine, who was next heir to the throne, publicly renounced his right to the succession in favour of his younger brother. This deviation from the strict hereditary line was not agreeable to the military, who were attached to Constantine. A sedition ensued at Petersburg when the oath was administered to the new emperor, and several lives were lost before it was suppressed.

8. A panic in the money-market, caused by the stoppage of the West of England banks, and of the great Yorkshire bank of Wentworth and company.

12. Banking-house of Sir Peter Pole and Co. stopt payment. It was connected with forty-seven country banks, and increased the dismay in the city.

13. Banking firms of Williams and Co., and sir Claude Scott and Co., stop payment. Next day those of Sikes and Co., and Everett and Co.; and, on the 15th, Stirlings and Hodsoll closed. Every species of stock experienced depression; and such was the scarcity of money, that merchants with difficulty obtained the smallest supplies on unexceptionable security. In addition to the London houses, sixty-seven country banks failed or suspended their payments.

14. Meeting of merchants, to the number of 150, at the Mansion-house, resolved that "the unprecedented embarrassments were to be mainly attributed to an unfounded panic; that they had the fullest reliance on the banking establishments of the capital and country, and therefore determined to support them, and public credit, to the utmost of their power." Mr. Baring drew up the resolution.

16. Bank of England began to re-issue

one and two-pound notes for the convenience of the country circulation. Orders were issued to the Mint to expedite an extraordinary coinage of sovereigns; and, for one week, about 150,000 sovereigns were coined per day. Post-chaises were hourly despatched into the country to support the credit, and prevent the failure, of the provincial firms, which still maintained their ground.

21. East India Company granted 1500*l.* to Mr. Arnot, successor of Mr. Buckingham, in the suppressed *Calcutta Journal*, to compensate him for the loss he had sustained by his forcible expulsion from India.

31. Intelligence continued to arrive of additional failures in the country; but the Bank, having been liberal in the assistance it afforded, lessened the alarm.

**MISCELLANIES.**—Among the popular sights of the metropolis this year was the *living skeleton*, who was much visited, owing to his extremely attenuated person. He was a native of France, 27 years of age, and 5 feet 7 inches high.

The taste for the beauties of architecture was intense: public subscriptions were raised to keep open the view of St. Bride's steeple, Fleet-street, and to re-build the tower of the church of St. Saviour, Southwark.

A volume, containing the scarce editions of eleven of Shakspeare's plays, among which was Hamlet, dated 1603, was brought to light. It was purchased by the duke of Devonshire for 200 guineas.

At the meeting of the Society of Arts, Roberts, a miner, received the large silver medal, and fifty guineas, for inventing a hood and mouth-piece, whereby respiration can be carried on with safety amidst the most dense smoke.

The following is the Russian official account of the devastation committed by the wolves in the government of Livonia only, in the year 1823:—They devoured horses, 1841; foals, 1243; horned cattle, 1807; calves, 703; sheep, 15,182; lambs, 726; goats, 2455; kids, 183; swine, 4890; sucking-pigs, 312; dogs, 703; geese, 673.

**ANNUAL OBITUARY.**—In great poverty, Wewitzer, 76, a veteran comedian. Of apoplexy, Ferdinand IV., 74, king of Naples and the Two Sicilies. George Dance, F.A.S., 84, the last survivor of the original forty royal academicians. Alexander Tilloch, LL.D., 66, many years editor of the Philosophical Magazine. At Stoke Newington, Mrs. Barbauld, 82, sister of Dr. Aikin, and authoress of many excellent works for the improvement of early domestic education. Henry Fuseli, R.A., 87, an artist of high repute, who produced the "Milton Gallery," and was



the author of *Lectures on Painting*. At Paris, Count Denon, 84, author of a splendid work on Egypt, and director of the French museum. Charles Earl Whitworth, 71, diplomatist, and late lord-lieutenant of Ireland. George Chalmers, F.R.S., 82, chief clerk of the office of the Board of Trade and Plantations, and copious writer on politics, finance, and statistics. At Florence, Paulina Borghese, favourite sister of Napoleon Buonaparte: her property, amounting to about two millions of francs, she bequeathed to her brothers, Louis and Jerome. Abraham Rees, D.D., 82, long an active and leading divine among the Dissenters, and editor of the well-known 'Cyclopædia.' At Paris, of an aneurism of the heart, General Foy, 50, a highly-popular and independent member of the chamber of deputies. At Brussels, David, the celebrated French painter: he had retired from Paris after the restoration of the Bourbons, being included in the decree against the regicides. Dr. Samuel Parr, 79, celebrated philologist, and erudite classical scholar. Maximilian Joseph, king of Bavaria, a popular prince, exempt from bigotry, and friendly to improvement: he was succeeded by his son, Charles Louis, who was 39 years of age.

A.D. 1826. THE COMMERCIAL CRISIS.—The mercantile reaction, which appeared at the close of the past year, continued with unabated force during the early part of the present. In November the number of bankrupts gazetted was 188; in December, 220; in January, 321; in February, 380; in March, 315. The number of bankrupts on March 4th was 93, which was the greatest number that had appeared; and from that time the plague may be said to have abated. As this was the most overwhelming revulsion in commerce that had ever happened, the causes in which it had originated were narrowly scrutinized; and the general inference seemed to be, that a wild spirit of speculation, springing, in the first instance, from the temptation of low prices, and fostered by the multiplication of paper-money and transactions on credit, was the primary source of the disorder. That over-trading was the origin, and the means indiscreetly afforded for over-trading accessories to the mischief, were facts clearly established from the returns obtained of the vast increase of imports, of the issues of the banks, and the number of bills of exchange in circulation. An excess of mercantile confidence, which opened the door to thoughtless enterprises, with fictitious capital, originated nine-tenths of the evil. The general prosperity encouraged the country banks, and the Bank of England, freely to make advances for almost every undertaking: they rapidly

increased their issues of notes; but these, though powerful auxiliaries, were insufficient to account for the enormous redundancy of capital that marked the year 1824, and the summer of 1825. This could only be supplied by the vast extension of private credit by bills, promissory-notes, and open account. Such was the general confidence, that real money was hardly needed: credit was the universal currency; and hence was generated that redundancy of means which depressed the rate of interest, and induced individuals to seek profitable employment for their resources in foreign loans, foreign mines, and every imaginable domestic expedient. Alarmed at the speculative spirit abroad, the Bank of England were the first to adopt precautions, by contracting their circulation; and the example was followed by the country banks. This *pulling up* was soon felt by a pressure in the money-market. Some of the banks—that of Elford's, in the west of England, and of Wentworth's, in the north—that had been extremely incautious in their advances to individuals, were unable to meet their engagements; and the fall of these houses involved the London firms with which they corresponded. Commercial confidence was destroyed, and a panic ensued. The bank of England made strenuous efforts to mitigate pecuniary distress; and government pursued a steady and judicious course. With the consequences of the folly and cupidity of individuals it could not properly interfere, but it sought to remedy some of the evils of the banking-system. As a too great facility in the power of creating fictitious money had been a main ingredient in producing the mischief, ministers sought to abridge the power of banks in issuing paper-money. For this purpose the circulation of one-pound notes was prohibited; and corporate bodies, or partnerships of more than six persons, were allowed to carry on the business of banking. Both these measures were improvements on the existing system, but not preventives of mercantile reaction: they afforded no effective guarantee against future panics, nor the over-issue and insolvency of bankers, nor against over-trading on baseless credit. The last are desiderata that can only emanate from individual prudence, and more general knowledge of the principles that govern the periodical vicissitudes of the commercial cycle.

Jan. 1. The Astorga library, recently purchased for the faculty of advocates at Edinburgh, is supposed to be the most curious collection of Spanish books existing anywhere out of Spain. It consists of 3000 volumes, and was sold for 3000*l*. The same body purchased, last year, a very

fine Danish library, entire, at Copenhagen.

18. Bhurtpore, in the East Indies, captured by the English, under lord Combermere. It was a town of considerable extent, strongly fortified on every side, being surrounded by a mud-wall of great height and thickness, with a wide and deep ditch. Lord Lake failed in an attempt upon it in 1805, after losing 3000 men. It has been dismantled by the British.

31. French chamber of deputies opened by the king, who announced the final separation of Hayti from France, after a struggle of thirty years. Except the excitement kept up by the efforts of the ecclesiastical party to extend their influence, and the clamours of interested men, who declaimed against the financial measures of ministers, because they had been losers by fluctuation in the funds, everything was prosperous and tranquil in France.

Feb. 2. PARLIAMENT opened by commission. The royal speech chiefly referred to the continuance of the Burmese war, to measures in contemplation for the improvement of Ireland, and to the existing pecuniary crisis, which was declared to be unconnected with political causes, and to originate, in great part, in the conduct of individuals, whose sufferings might afford the best security against its recurrence. Addresses passed without serious opposition in both houses, though not without much discussion.

13. Riot at Norwich, owing to one of the manufacturers being detected in sending work out of the city to be executed in the country. Nearly 12,000 persons are unemployed.

23. A two-nights' debate in the house of commons on the silk-trade, on a motion of Mr. Ellice to refer the petition on the subject to a committee. Motion negatived by 222 to 40; the house being resolved to support ministers in their free-trade policy, both as respected manufactures and the shipping interest.

26. PEACE WITH AVA.—The war with this power, which had lasted two years, terminated with the treaty of Yandaboo, by which the East India Company obtained an accession of territory, and a crore of rupees. The cautious mode of fighting adopted by the Burmese, and their use of stockades and redoubts, it was at first thought would create hazardous employment for the British arms. These, however, proved unavailing against European engineering and artillery; and the Burmese were found not more advanced in the art of war than other Indian nations. After carrying all their entrenchments,

and beating, in successive engagements, their unconnected columns, sir A. Campbell penetrated to within forty-five miles of the capital of Ava. This brought the monarch of the Golden Foot to terms; not, however, till his majesty had experimented on the diplomacy of the invaders, by attempting some evasive negotiations, and to substitute, in lieu of a payment in money, which he said the country did not produce, a certain quantity of rice, which was abundant.

Mar. 1. Real del Monte mining-shares, which had sold for a premium of 1200%, fell to a discount of 20% per share.

The large elephant at Exeter Change having exhibited dangerous symptoms of restlessness, which were usual with it at certain seasons of the year, Mr. Cross sent for a party of guards to shoot it. One hundred and eighty musket-balls were discharged before the animal fell. It stood thirteen feet high; the body, as it lay on the floor, was of the height of six feet.

2. Lord John Russell made a motion for the prevention of bribery at elections. It was coldly received; neither Mr. Brougham nor Mr. Canning took part in the debate. Mr. William Lamb said there was corruption both on the ministerial and popular side. Motion negatived by 249 to 123.

AFFAIRS OF PORTUGAL.—Died at Lisbon, on the 10th instant, aged 59, after a reign of thirty-four years, John VI., king of Portugal and titular emperor of Brazil. During twenty-five years of his reign the king had acted as regent for his mother, who was insane. Upon the queen's death, in 1817, he succeeded her, and was crowned at Rio Janeiro, to which he had retired with his court on the invasion of Portugal by Buonaparte. His character was ordinary, neither marked by eminent virtues nor debasing vices. After his death Portugal became a scene of intrigue and civil war: Don Pedro had to choose between the throne of Portugal and that of Brazil; for the constitution of Brazil, to guard against the misgovernment which had afflicted her when a colony, had provided, in securing her independence, that the two crowns should never be united under one head. Pedro promptly made his election. On the 2nd May he abdicated the Portuguese crown in favour of his eldest daughter, Donna Maria, then seven years of age. Until she arrived of age the government to be vested in the present regent, her aunt, Isabella Maria. At the same time, to guard against any opposition that might proceed from the faction of the queen-dowager and Don Miguel, it was made a condition of the cession of the crown to the infant



princess that, on coming of age, she should marry her uncle, Don Miguel. A representative constitution was sent over from Brazil by Don Pedro, accepted by the Portuguese, and acknowledged by Britain, France, Russia, and Austria. This settlement was, however, displeasing to the *absolutists*, headed by the queen-dowager and the marquis of Chaves, and supported by Ferdinand of Spain. Insurrections were excited, which were only suppressed by the arrival in the Tagus, at the end of the year, of a British force of 5000 men.

13. Budget brought forward by the chancellor of the exchequer, in which he took a view of the financial system, particularly of the reductions made, during successive years, in taxation, and the effect of those reductions on the productiveness of the revenue. The increase of consumption since 1816 had made up the diminution in taxation. In beer, the increase of consumption was 16 per cent.; candles, 36; paper, 55; tea, 20; malt, 50; British spirits, 53; sugar, 19; coffee, 43; wine, 88; tobacco, 13; leather, 29 per cent.

Apr. 11. Royalty theatre burnt.

14. The number of lunatics returned to the commissioners for licensing mad-houses, from 1815 to 1825, both inclusive, and entered into the registers, was—males, 4461; females, 3443.

22. Missolonghi taken by storm by a combined Egyptian and Turkish force, commanded by Ibrahim. It had held out nearly eleven months. The obstinate defence made the assailants furious: the entire of the male population above twelve years of age were destroyed, and between three and four thousand women and children were carried into slavery. It extinguished the hopes of the patriots of western Greece.

23. The sum received for admissions to see the monuments in Westminster Abbey in 1825 was 1585*l.*; the price of admission, each person, 1*s.* 3*d.*

24. Riots in Lancashire, occasioned by the hostility of the weavers to the power-looms.

STEAM TO INDIA.—It is ascertained that the *Enterprise* steam-vessel had reached Bengal. She sailed from Falmouth August 16th, reached the Cape October 13th, and arrived at the mouth of the Hoogley December 9th, after a passage of forty-seven days from the Cape, having consumed all her coals. The whole time spent in the voyage was sixteen weeks and three days, which is nearly the average length of the voyage in sailing-vessels. By having supplies of coals at St. Helena and other intermediate points, it is thought the time might be abridged a month. Captain Johnson, by navigating the *Enterprise*, has earned the prize of 10,000*l.*,

subscribed at Calcutta, as a reward to the first person who made a steam-voyage from England to India.

May 2. Public meeting at the Mansion-house for the relief of distressed manufacturers; the king subscribed 2000*l.*

3. Riot near Bradford, Yorkshire; two persons killed and several wounded in an attack on a power-loom mill.

4. Mr. Hume made a formal motion on the state of the nation, accompanied by forty-five resolutions, illustrative of the chief points of financial discussion. He combated the idea of the chancellor of the exchequer (*Mar.* 13) that consumption had increased. By taking a longer period for comparison, it would be found that the consumption of beer, wine, tobacco, and other articles, had not kept pace with the increase of population. Motion negatived by 153 to 52.

A package of relics imported at Dublin, consigned to the rev. T. Murphy, of Kilkenny. The declared value is 1*s.*, which subjects it only to a duty of 2*d.*, and it is entered on the custom-house books "One box of bones of martyrs."

5. A resolution carried in the house of commons to vest a discretionary power in ministers, to allow corn, in bond, to be taken out on certain conditions, for home consumption. It was strenuously opposed by the landed interest, as a departure from the corn laws.

6. Mr. Lemon has made some interesting discoveries at the state-paper office. One is an entire translation of "Boethius," by queen Elizabeth: the prose in the handwriting of her secretary, and the poetry in the queen's own autograph. There are also several documents, elucidatory of the reign of Henry 8th, especially of the king's divorces.

12. Mr. Huskisson, in an able speech, laid open the state of the shipping trade, and defended the policy of the relaxation in the navigation laws.

The number of Jews at present is estimated at 3,166,603; of whom there are in the Austrian states, 453,545; Prussia, 134,980; Russia, 426,908; Poland, 232,000; Netherlands, 80,000; France, 60,000; Britain, 12,000; Italy, 36,000; Turkey in Europe, 321,000; Asia, 138,000; Africa (of which 300,000 are in Morocco), 504,000; America, 5,700. (*Ann. Reg.* lxxviii. 82.)

31. Parliament prorogued, and two days after dissolved. It was the sixth session, which had been abridged with a view of getting through the general election at a convenient season. Though the session had been short, it had been full of business, and the parliamentary papers printed occupied 29 folio volumes, exclusive of the journals and votes.

**June 15. DESTRUCTION OF THE JANISSARIES.**—This once formidable force of the Turkish empire had degenerated into a mutinous and effeminate militia. Sultan Mahmoud, undeterred by the fate of Selim, his predecessor, who was murdered by this haughty corps, in 1807, sought to alter its organization by introducing the European arms, discipline, and mode of warfare. The Janissaries were opposed to innovations; they seditiously assembled in the square of Almeida, and declared they would not submit till the new regulations had been rescinded. The sultan had foreseen and prepared for this revolt by securing the services of the artillery, and even some of the Janissaries themselves. Mahmoud acted with vigour; the sacred standard of Mahomet was unfurled, and all true believers were summoned to the defence of the religion of the Prophet. At the head of several thousand men Hussein Pacha attacked the rebels with impetuosity. They retired towards the Hippodrome of Almeida, and flung themselves into the barracks. Cannon-balls and shells burst upon their strong-holds; the barracks were set on fire, and a terrible slaughter ensued of the Janissaries. Between two and three thousand were killed or perished in the flames: those who escaped were executed or banished from Constantinople, and the very name of Janissary became extinct. The destruction of this corps was followed by an entire new-modelling of the Turkish military, and its discipline assimilated to that of European nations. In every quarter of the city soldiers were to be seen at drill; Egyptian officers were brought as instructors from the army of Ibrahim; the proud Turks, who were wont to treat Egyptians with contempt, now submitted to be their pupils.

28. This was the hottest day in the year. At London the thermometer in the shade stood at 89½. Several sudden deaths were occasioned by the heat, and the excitement of the general election. Among them a son of earl Grey, and Mr. Butterworth, the eminent law-bookseller, a candidate for Dover.

In England, within the last twelve months, 1738 coroners' inquests have been held.

**GENERAL ELECTION.**—The elections were carried on in many places with great spirit and bitterness. The struggles, however, were not for the predominance of political parties but public questions. The prevailing tests offered to candidates on the hustings were the corn-laws, catholic emancipation, and the slave-trade. In Westminster the sitting members, sir F. Burdett and Mr. Hobhouse, were returned. In Southwark, a strenuous but unsuccessful

effort was made to eject sir R. Wilson; and in the city a cry of "No Popery" was raised against alderman Wood. Mr. Brougham once more entered the lists against the Lowthers, in Westmoreland, but was more signally defeated than in his former attempts. The radicals of Preston tried to return Mr. Cobbett; though defeated he polled 1000 votes. In Somersetshire, Mr. Hunt retired from the contest, with the declaration that he "would repeat the experiment till he succeeded." In England and Wales, 133 members were returned, who had never before sat in parliament. In Scotland there were no contests, except for Kirkcudbright, in which Mr. Ferguson ousted his ministerial opponent. In Ireland, there was an unprecedented display of feeling on the catholic question. The catholic priests, for the first time, openly began to take a part in elections, inculcating the doctrine that opposition to an anti-catholic candidate was a christian duty. Influenced by them, and roused by the oratorical energies of Mr. O'Connell, the Beresfords were driven out of Waterford. The forty-shilling freeholders, many of whom had been created for election purposes, now openly voted against their landlords.

**July 4. DEATHS OF ADAMS AND JEFFERSON.**—It was a remarkable coincidence that the two ex-presidents of the United States both expired on the same day, and that day the fiftieth anniversary of the issuing of the declaration. They heard the sound of the bells and the salutes which ushered in the political festival: both had been compelled, by ill-health, to decline the invitation to attend the celebration at Washington, and before sun-set they had both breathed their last, having witnessed their country rising, during half-a-century, to power and wealth, under the government in laying whose foundation they had borne so large a share. Their whole lives had been spent in the public service; they had filled the highest offices in the state at home, and conducted its diplomacy abroad. They were both writers of eminence; in their political views there was a difference, Mr. Adams inclining more than Mr. Jefferson to the aristocratical parts of the American constitution. They formed two of the only three surviving members of the congress who signed the declaration of independence, in 1776.

10. The moors of Yorkshire, about Ilkly, Bingley, and Burley, the scene of extensive fires, which are ascribed to the heat of the weather and long drought.

18. Mr. Green made a nocturnal ascent with his balloon from Vauxhall-gardens and descended near Richmond. During his aerial voyage the aeronaut could dis-



tinguish the white wheat, which was ready for cutting, from the uncultivated land; the former appearing like sheets spread on the ground: the trees and buildings appeared quite black. The gas-lights on the bridges appeared like rows of lamps resting on the water. Battersea and Putney bridges, which were not lighted, appeared like planks across the river.

**GREEK LOANS.**—One of these had been contracted for in 1824, with Loughnan, Son, and O'Brien, the other early in 1825, with the Ricardos. The last was for 2,000,000*l.*, and realized 1,200,000*l.* for the aid of the Greeks. Certain gentlemen, calling themselves the "Greek committee," watched over the disbursement of the money, with the consent of the Greek deputies, Orlando and Luriettis. The great object was to raise a fleet, to be placed under the command of lord Cochrane, which was to consist of ships of war and steam-boats; the last had not yet been used in the Levant. Owing to some mismanagement, that has never been explained, no fleet was provided; all the naval aid sent to the Greeks was a sixty-gun frigate and a miserable steam-boat, both of which arrived too late to be useful. Yet the money was all spent. There was much mutual recrimination in the newspapers on the causes of the failure, in which the names of Messrs. Hume, Bowring, Ellice, Ricardo, Easthope, and Gallo-way, were conspicuous.

*Aug. 4.* The "stocks" belonging to St. Clement's Danes, in Portugal-street, were removed from their situation and destroyed, for the purpose of local improvements. They were the last remaining stocks in the streets of London.

7. Colonel Purdon defeated the Ashantees. A discharge of Congreve rockets, canister, and grape, was very destructive among the barbarians. Besides ivory and gold-dust, the victors made prize of the head of the late sir Charles McCarthy, which was considered by the Ashantees as their greatest charm, or fetish. It was enveloped in two folds of paper, covered with Arabic characters, tied up a third time in a silk handkerchief, and lastly sewed up in a leopard's skin.

It appears that 1089 power-looms have been destroyed by the rioters in Lancashire, for which damages, to the amount of 16,383*l.*, have been recovered by actions against the hundred.

*Sept. 3.* Nicholas I., emperor of Russia, crowned at Moscow. The duke of Devonshire, who attended as the representative of George IV., astonished the Russians by his splendid retinue and sumptuous entertainments.

*Oct. 3.* The exact position of the Cowig stakes, where Cæsar crossed the Thames,

has been ascertained. In deepening the river, about 200 yards above Walton-bridge, a line of old broken piles was discovered, some five feet below the previous bed of the river. They were about as thick as a man's thigh. Many were drawn, and are in possession of the gentlemen in the neighbourhood.

16. Mr. Canning dined with the king of France, and sir Walter Scott with the king of England.

19. Mr. Buckingham recovered 400*l.* damages from W. J. Banks, M. P., for a libel, charging the plaintiff with having pirated notes and drawings made by Mr. Banks, during his journey in Syria, to publish in Mr. Buckingham's Book of Travels.

*Nov. 14.* Meeting of the new parliament. Mr. Manners Sutton re-elected speaker. On the 21st it was opened by the king in person. In the royal speech allusion was made to throwing open the ports for the admission of foreign grain, the termination of hostilities with the Burmese, and the distresses that had visited the manufacturing districts. The address was carried in the upper house without a division; in the lower an amendment, moved by Mr. Hume, seconded by Mr. Marshall, the new member for Yorkshire, was negatived by 170 votes against 24.

*Dec. 1.* The king visited Drury-lane theatre.

5. Alderman Waithman brought forward, in the house of commons, the subject of the numerous joint-stock companies that had been established. Within the last three years, he said, 600 joint-stock companies had been formed, most of them for dishonest purposes. The directors of these fraudulent schemes worked with the market as they pleased, forcing up the prices of shares to sell, and depressing them to buy, pocketing the difference. He dwelt particularly on the Arigna mining company, of which the late chairman of the committee of ways and means, Mr. Brogden, had been a director. The directors of this company, besides an allowance of three guineas per day for the use of their names, had divided a large surplus arising from trafficking in shares. Other members of the house had pocketed by the bubble companies, among them sir William Congreve. He moved for a committee of inquiry with reference to the part taken by members of parliament in the joint-stock mania of 1824-5-6. The inquiry, on the suggestion of Mr. Canning, was restricted to the Arigna company.

8. At a meeting of the Society of Antiquarians, the earl of Aberdeen exhibited the household book of James V. of Scotland, containing an account of his expen-

diture from Sept. 14, 1538, to Sept. 13, 1539. It is a folio volume, of considerable size, legibly written, and contains the names and prices of most articles in use among our ancestors.

18. Letter addressed by the king to the archbishop of Canterbury, authorising subscriptions to be raised in churches for the relief of the manufacturing classes.

26. Mr. Bric, member of the Catholic Association, killed in a duel at Dublin, by Mr. Hayes, a solicitor.

27. The duke of York visited by the king, who remained with him two hours. The royal duke had been some time unwell, and was now in imminent danger.

31. Died, in his 71st year, WILLIAM GIFFORD, a well-known critic and satirist, and long connected with the government literature. He was the editor of the *Anti-jacobin*, in 1799, and in 1809, in conjunction with Messrs. Canning and Frere, established the *Quarterly Review*, of which he was conductor till 1824, when the infirmities of old age obliged him to resign his situation. Mr. Gifford was originally apprenticed to a shoemaker, at Ashburton, his native town. Not liking his occupation, and having a strong taste for letters, which attracted the notice of Mr. Cookesley, a surgeon, he was, through the munificent kindness of that gentleman, removed to Oxford University. He subsequently obtained the patronage of earl Grosvenor, and became paymaster of the band of gentlemen pensioners, and comptroller of the lottery.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—Count Rostopchin, the governor who directed the burning of Moscow, in 1812; the governor also set fire to his country-seat, rather than it should be occupied by the French. At Marseilles, marshal Suchet, 54, a distinguished French general in the Peninsular war. Lindley Murray, 80, the popular elementary writer: he was originally an eminent merchant of New York, but losing the use of his limbs, he turned his attention to composing literary works for the benefit of young people, and the profits of which were devoted to charitable uses. At Worcester, the celebrated English vocalist, Charles Incledon. John Pinkerton, F.S.A., 67, author of an "Essay on Medals." Viscount Barrington, 92; he succeeded Dr. Thomas Thurlow, in the see of Durham, in 1791. Rev. John Milner, 74, Roman Catholic bishop of Castabola, and vicar apostolic of the midland district of England. At the house of sir George Smart, M. Carl Von Weber, 40, the celebrated musical composer. William Davies Shipley, dean of St. Asaph, 81: the dean is chiefly remembered from the prosecution instituted against him by William Jones, a

Welsh attorney (afterwards marshal of the king's-bench prison), for a government libel, and which originated Mr. Fox's libel law, settling the powers of juries in libel cases. Samuel March Philipps, 45, recorder of Grantham, and author of a "Treatise on the Law of Evidence." Sir Thomas Stamford Raffles, 45, late governor of Java. Of apoplexy, John Farquhar, 75, owner of Fonthill-abbey, and a person who had amassed immense wealth in India by penurious and industrious habits: dying intestate, it was inherited by seven nephews and nieces. At Paris, Joseph Samson, 60, the man who decapitated Louis XVI., and the public executioner during the French revolution. At Margate, Michael Kelly, the dramatist, 63. In his convent, the famous monk La Trappe, a guerilla chief, who distinguished himself in the Spanish war of 1823. Charles Mills, 38, author of the "History of Chivalry," &c. At Paris, Talma, 60, the celebrated tragedian. F. Boissy d'Anglas, 70, a peer of France, and one who distinguished himself by firmness and patriotism during some trying scenes of the revolution. John Nichols, F.S.A., for nearly fifty years editor of *The Gentleman's Magazine*. John Flaxman, R.A., 72, the eminent sculptor. At Paris, Conrad Malte Brun, 52, celebrated geographer. At Trichinopoly, in the East Indies, Reginald Heber, D.D., bishop of Calcutta, 44, an exemplary divine and popular writer.

A.D. 1827. REVIVAL OF INDUSTRY.—The present year was pregnant with events, and opened with a more cheering aspect than the preceding. Employment was generally to be had by the working classes, and though wages were still low, they enabled them to gain a livelihood. The different monied and manufacturing interests were recovering from the confusion of the last eighteen months by a progress which, though slow, was sure, and which by its slowness, perhaps, justified the belief that it did not proceed from factitious scheming, but was the natural return of mercantile health. The atmosphere had been cleared by the monetary crisis of 1825-6, and an entire decomposition of commercial elements effected. Masses of fictitious property were dispersed, and much of the real capital of the country distributed into new channels. Had this been the only result, the useful lesson over-speculation had taught might have been more instructive than injurious. Unfortunately an immense loss was sustained from the destruction of property, occasioned by the fluctuation in prices, and the sudden change in the employment of capital and industry. A check was thus given to internal improvement; and in consequence



of the blight on mercantile confidence the legitimate movements of commerce long continued to be impeded. It is in the nature of great changes to involve the innocent with the guilty; and this was the worst result of the late revulsion; it not only swept away the delusive projects of the adventurer, but paralysed for a season the operations of real business and commendable enterprise. In domestic politics the prominent topic of interest, in the history of the year, was the termination of the Liverpool ministry, and the efforts to supply the vacancy occasioned by the sudden illness of that nobleman. Abroad the political horizon was auspicious. The arms of Russia and Persia were encountering each other on the banks of the Araxes, but the sound was too distant to disturb the repose of Europe. Our armament in the Tagus had guaranteed the Portuguese constitution against the machinations of the absolutists of Paris and Madrid. Even the interference of the great powers in behalf of the Greeks, which led to the battle of Navarino, failed to disturb the tranquillity of Europe.

*Jan. 4.* The habit of walking with the hands in the breeches or coat-pockets was now very prevalent in the metropolis. It was ascertained that of the first thirty men who passed on the narrow foot-path in New-street, Covent-garden, eighteen had both hands in their pockets, and five others had one hand so placed. (*Ann. Reg.*, lxi. 6.) The practice may have risen out of the late pecuniary mania, but has been superseded by the general use of gloves.

**5. DEATH OF THE DUKE OF YORK.**—The demise of his royal highness, who had long laboured under an incurable dropsy, had been for some time expected. He was in the 64th year of his age, and for upwards of thirty-two years had been at the head of the army. His sincerity, affability, attention to the comforts of the soldier, and to the discharge of his official duties, combined with equity in the disposition of the patronage of his office, had made him highly popular among the military. During his administration at the Horse-guards, seconded by the lessons of practical experience which the war in the Peninsula afforded, the British army had not merely been improved, but almost created. The duke was large in person, of a manly appearance. He bore a strong resemblance to George III., and inherited, in some degree, his hasty and rapid mode of speech. He was like his father, too, in thoughts and in affections; but differed from him in his love of pleasure and addiction to gaming. He was a tory in politics, but seldom interfered in them. His anti-catholic declaration, in 1825, was

deemed a rash enunciation of an unchangeable opinion in the presumptive heir to the crown. The duke of Wellington, already master-general of the ordnance, became the new commander-in-chief. The fitness of his appointment was universally acquiesced in, only a constitutional objection was raised against the propriety of his grace continuing to hold, with his new office, his seat in the cabinet.

**13.** The testimony of Richard Carlile against a servant who had robbed him, the recorder at the Old Bailey refused to receive, on the ground that the prosecutor did not believe in the Scriptures.

*Feb. 1.* The lord-chancellor gave judgment in *Wellesley v. Duke of Beaufort*. It excited interest from the notoriety of the parties, and the peculiarities of the case. Mr. Wellesley, a nephew of the duke of Wellington, married, in 1812, Miss Tilney Long, with a fortune of 40,000*l.* a-year. Subsequently to the marriage he lived openly in adultery with Mrs. Bligh, and Mrs. Wellesley separated from him, taking along with her their children, that they might not be corrupted by the profligate example of the parent. Mrs. Wellesley dying, Mr. Wellesley claimed possession of his children, but the court interfered to prevent him, on the ground that his openly immoral conduct had disqualified him for the custody of his offspring. The jurisdiction of the court, lord Eldon said, was undoubted, and he had no hesitation in exercising it, where there was property for the maintenance of children, but not otherwise. The prayer of the plaintiff, therefore, was refused, and the children, as wards of chancery, consigned to the care of guardians. The chancellor's decision was subsequently confirmed by the house of lords.

**8.** Parliament met after the holidays. An additional grant of 9000*l.* to the duke of Clarence, on account of his nearer proximity to the throne, was carried, after sharp opposition.

**17. ILLNESS OF THE EARL OF LIVERPOOL.**—A stroke of apoplexy terminated the public life of the earl of Liverpool, though his lordship survived till December 4, 1828. He was born in 1770, and, as Mr. Jenkinson and lord Hawkesbury, had been a strenuous supporter of Mr. Pitt. His own premiership commenced June 9, 1812, and owed such lustre as it possessed to fortuitous occurrences rather than energetic statesmanship. The earl's private character was respectable; he was disinterested, and not addicted to political intrigue or partisanship. Inheriting from his father an extensive knowledge of monetary and commercial affairs, combined with the experience of a protracted official career, his

lordship was master of the chief facts and principles bearing on the physical interests of the empire. He was a sound, safe, commonplace leader, but not eminent for eloquence, nor for force and originality of mind. Except by the adoption of a more liberal commercial system, little had been done during the peace towards the reform of domestic abuses, or the reduction of the incumbrances entailed by the war. His ministry had become weak, chiefly from a division on the catholic claims, and was only kept together on the understanding that catholic emancipation should be an open question, each member of the cabinet following his own convictions, without lending to the support of his opinion the patronage of his office. Mr. Canning and his friends were in favour of concession; lords Liverpool, Eldon, and Wellington, and Mr. Peel, against it.

21. Will of Mr. Rundell, the silversmith, proved; personal property amounted to 1,200,000*l*.

The sale of the duke of York's furniture produced 6000*l*.

Mar. 1. Mr. Canning introduced his resolutions on the corn-laws. A bill founded upon them passed the commons, but was thrown out of the lords, chiefly through the opposition of Mr. Canning's late colleagues, headed by the duke of Wellington.

The following extract from a letter, addressed to sir Wm. Knighton, the king's privy purse, exhibits some of the effects of the difficulties which now beset Mr. Canning. It is dated on the 3d instant:—"My dear Sir,—The only ill effect of my attendance in the house of commons, on Thursday, was a sleepless night; a grievance which I do not remember ever to have experienced to the same degree before. I was not feverish; I was not exhausted; I was not even tired;—and I can generally get to sleep, putting aside whatever is upon my mind, but Thursday night I could not. *I felt as if every limb, from top to toe, was alive, like an eel*, and I lay all night, not tossing or tumbling, but as broad awake as if it were mid-day. The consequence was that I kept quiet at home (by Holland's advice) all yesterday, and did not go to the house of commons, for which reason I have not written to his majesty; perhaps you will have the kindness to explain why. I am quite well this morning, having (by order) dined more liberally yesterday, and drunk a little more wine, and afterwards slept like a top from eleven to seven.—Ever most sincerely yours, George Canning."—(*Memoirs of Sir W. Knighton*, i. 376.)

6. At the Winchester assizes, on the trial of a woman for the murder of her child, the counsel of the prisoner objected

that, inasmuch as the inquisition of the coroner, on which she was tried, appeared to be on the finding of thirteen jurors, the words "upon their oath" were clearly wrong, as thirteen men could not have been sworn by one oath, but by thirteen oaths. Mr. justice Buller immediately pronounced the objection fatal, and the inquisition was quashed.

23. Edward Gibbon Wakefield, William Wakefield, Edward Thevenot, and Frances Wakefield, were tried at Lancaster assizes for the abduction of Miss Ellen Turner, a lady 15 years of age, and the only child and heiress of William Turner, esq., a gentleman, with real estates at Manchester producing 5000*l*. a-year. The jury brought in a verdict of guilty against the two Wakefields and Mrs. Wakefield. Judgment against the two Wakefields was delivered in the court of king's-bench, May 14th, when Edward Gibbon Wakefield was sentenced to be confined in Newgate for three years, and William Wakefield in Lancaster castle, for the same period. Judgment was not prayed against Mrs. Wakefield. An act of parliament was passed to annul the alleged marriage with Miss Turner.

30. Mr. Tierney moved a postponement of the supplies, till a strong, efficient, and united administration had been formed. What was meant by a "united administration" he would not define. Motion negatived by 158 to 80.

April 10. Mr. Hume obtained leave to bring in a bill for the abolition of imprisonment for debt on mesne process.

16. Talicotton operation, so called from its inventor, for the restoration of a lost nose, performed for the first time, in Scotland, by Mr. Liston, surgeon, in Edinburgh.

30. First stone of the London university laid by the duke of Sussex. It was commemorated by a dinner, at which were present the duke of Norfolk, marquis of Lansdowne, earl of Carnarvon, lord Auckland, sir R. Wilson, Dr. Lushington, Mr. J. Smith, Dr. Maltby, colonel Jones, alderman Venables, &c. &c.

CANNING MINISTRY.—There was an interregnum of near two months before measures were taken to supply the deficiency in the ministry occasioned by the illness of the earl of Liverpool. No hope remaining of his lordship's recovery, the king determined upon the course he should adopt. From the first he had selected Mr. Canning for his confidential adviser; and the favourable disposition of his majesty towards the foreign secretary was in accordance with the general sentiment among the people. Mr. Canning was not implicitly confided in for political consistency, neither



was his public conduct universally approved, but his superiority to his colleagues in experience, eloquence, official ability, and general intelligence, was recognised. He had become popular by the recognition of the independence of the American colonies; by disconnecting the country, in its foreign policy, from the continental despotisms, and by his liberal sentiments on the catholic question. The public press and the talented and liberal-minded were in his favour. The king, therefore, evinced judgment in his choice, and empowered Mr. Canning to form a new ministry, on a prescribed basis. It was to be like its predecessor, divided in opinion on the catholic question; but Mr. Canning, the leader of the pro-catholic party, who refused longer to serve under an anti-catholic premier, should be its head. On this point Mr. Canning was decided, and expressly stipulated with his majesty that he was not "only to have the substantial power of first minister, but be known to have."—(*Stapleton's Life*, iii. 315.) The king's instructions were received on the 10th inst. Mr. Canning forthwith began to make his arrangements, under the impression that his former colleagues would bow to his supremacy; in lieu of which, within forty-eight hours after, seven leading members of the cabinet sent in their resignations. These Mr. Canning, on the 12th, took to St. James's, and, laying them *en masse* before the king, said, "See here, sire, what disables me from executing your majesty's will." The king gave him his hand to kiss, and Mr. Canning was prime-minister. The *strike* at once of seven ministers looked like a conspiracy against the king's choice, and a determination to coerce the royal will. Mr. Peel's intention to resign, however, had been frankly avowed beforehand, but the simultaneous resignation of the rest was unforeseen. The general excuse they offered was difference with the premier on the catholic question; but this plea would not serve all, for lords Melville, Londonderry, and others of the retiring statesmen, agreed on that subject with Mr. Canning. This gave it the semblance of a confederacy either against Mr. Canning personally, or the king's choice. But George IV., in the exercise of his prerogatives, was not to be controlled any more than his predecessor. He differed from Mr. Canning respecting the catholics, but having selected his minister he steadily supported him. Before separating from his late colleagues, Mr. Canning had opened communications with the leading whigs—with Mr. Brougham personally, and with the marquis of Lansdowne, through the medium of a common friend, the earl of Carlisle. The mastership of the rolls was mentioned for Mr.

Brougham; he declined the appointment, observing that, if he left the house of commons for the sake of the rolls, he should be without "*post-horses* to carry him the rest of his journey." Ultimately the bulk of the opposition undertook to support Mr. Canning, without stipulating for the immediate possession of places, merely on the ground of approval of his late policy. Under these circumstances the new ministry was constituted as follows:—

Mr. Canning, *Premier*.

Earl of Harrowby, *Lord President*.

Duke of Portland, *Lord Privy Seal*.

Viscount Dudley, *Foreign Secretary*.

W. S. Bourne, *Home Secretary*.

Viscount Goderich, *Colonial Secretary*.

W. Huskisson, *Board of Trade*.

C. W. Wynn, *Board of Control*.

Viscount Palmerston, *Secretary at War*.

Lord Bexley, *Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster*.

Lord Lyndhurst, *Lord Chancellor*.

Sir John Leach, *Master of the Rolls*.

Sir Anthony Hart, *Vice-Chancellor*.

Sir James Scarlett, *Attorney-General*.

Sir N. Tindall, *Solicitor-General*.

Duke of Clarence, *Lord High Admiral*.

Marquis of Anglesey, *Master-General of the Ordnance*.

Duke of Devonshire, *Lord Chamberlain*.

Duke of Leeds, *Master of the Horse*.

Hon. W. Lamb, *Secretary for Ireland*.

The first eleven formed the cabinet. Lord Bexley was among the resigned, but recalled his resignation, on the ground of a mistake, and retained the duchy sinecure. Changes were subsequently made, and members of the opposition were introduced into offices. The marquis of Lansdowne accepted the seals of the home department; Mr. Tierney the mastership of the mint; and Mr. Abercrombie became judge-advocate, *vice* sir John Beckett.

**THE KING'S HEALTH.**—During the suspension of the ministry, and while a new one was being formed, the king's health was very indifferent. In a note to sir W. Knighton, dated April 6th, his majesty says,—“It is true I am jaded and quite worn out, and writing from my bed, where I have laid down for a little rest; but to-morrow will be quite time enough [for sir William's coming to the palace, who was absent from indisposition]. Little or no advance, I regret to say, has as yet been made, amidst, perhaps, almost *unravelable perplexities*.” The following is a melancholy picture, by the king himself, of his infirmities during the summer. It is dated “*Royal Lodge, June 18th, 1827*.”—As to myself I am pretty well *bodily*, but I have little or no use of my poor limbs, for I can neither walk up nor down stairs, and am

obliged to be carried, and in general to be wheeled about everywhere; for my powers of walking, and even of crawling about with crutches, or with the aid of a strong stick, are not in the smallest respect improved since you last saw me; at the same time that my knees, legs, ankles, and feet, swell more formidably and terribly than ever.”—(*Memoirs of Sir Wm. Knighton*, i. 376.) This sufficiently accounts for the king's reluctance to see strangers, which puzzled the prince Puckler Muskau, on his visit to Windsor-park, in the August following. “Lord H.” says he, “was afraid the king might meet us, and feel ‘*mal à son aise*’ at the sight of unexpected strangers—for the monarch's tastes are singular enough. It is unpleasant to him to see a strange face, or indeed a human being of any kind whatsoever, within his domain; and the park is consequently (with the exception of the high-road, which crosses it) a perfect solitude.”—(*Tour of a German Prince*, iv. 143.)

May 1. Parliament met, after the Easter recess, and presented a novel aspect, after the coalition of parties. Mr. Tierney, Mr. Brougham, sir F. Burdett, and sir R. Wilson, were ranged on the ministerial side; neither Mr. Hume in the lower, nor earl Grey in the upper house, had changed their seats. The two first days were occupied in explanations, given by the different parties, of the motives that had influenced their conduct, and of which we have availed ourselves in the preceding statement.

6. Lord Cochrane and general Church repulsed in an attempt to raise the siege of the Acropolis. Athens held out for about a month longer, when colonel Fabvier and his brother Philhellenes capitulated on honourable terms to the Turks. The loss of Missolonghi last year, and of Athens this, combined with the dissensions of the Greek chiefs, left slight hopes of Grecian independence. They appointed their countryman, count Capo d'Istria, who had been in the service of Russia, president of congress for seven years, with the same power as the president of the United States.

8. In digging in the Vauxhall-road, to form a common sewer from Westminster to the Thames, a number of human bones, with fragments of timber, old shoes, buckles, and remains of wearing apparel, were exhumed. It appears to have been near the site of “the Pest-house” (since denominated the Five Chimneys) to which victims of the plague fled in 1665, and such as did not recover were buried in the vicinity.

18. Thames tunnel fell in and filled with water. Mr. Brunell, the engineer, immediately adopted measures for stop-

ping up the breach with bags of clay, and sinking a lighter, loaded with old iron, over them.

June 1. Mr. Canning brought forward the budget. It was without novelty, and the minister referred to a future session for a more minute inquiry into the state of the finances. Ministerial changes, the corn-laws, and the conduct of political parties, formed the engrossing topics of parliamentary discussion.

July 2. Parliament prorogued by commission. The session had been enlivened by the explanations of political leaders, but had been one of little business. The game-laws, debtor-laws, and the state of the court of chancery, were discussed; and Mr. Peel continued the task he had entered upon of bringing forward bills for the consolidation of the criminal statutes. The corruption of the boroughs of Penryn and East Retford was brought forward. Ministers proposed to extend the elective franchise to the adjoining hundreds, the opposition their total disfranchisement; but neither course was adopted during the session.

6. Treaty signed at London, by the ministers of Britain, France, and Russia, for the pacification of Greece. In this treaty they declared the motives of their interference to be the necessity of putting an end to the sanguinary contest between the Porte and its Grecian subjects, and to the piracies to which European commerce was exposed by the continuance of hostilities. England and France justified their interference on the ground that their interposition had been requested by the Greeks. This was the first notice the European powers had vouchsafed of the struggling Greeks; all the aid they had hitherto received proceeded from the voluntary contributions or personal services of enthusiastic individuals.

14. William Sheen, *alias* Beadle, tried at the Old Bailey for the murder of his child, by cutting off its head, and acquitted. He escaped by pleading a former acquittal, which arose from a technical error in the indictment. The name in the indictment was “William Beadle,” but in the baptismal register that was produced it was “Charles William Beadle;” consequently, as no identity was proved, Mr. justice Holroyd held the discrepancy to be fatal to the indictment.

16. A ludicrous scene in the king's-bench prison. It was a mock-election for the newly-created borough of Tenterden, as the debtors styled their gaol. The riotous sport was kept up for three days, and was only terminated by the interference of marshal Jones.

In digging the foundations of the new



London-bridge, many ancient pieces of coin, gold, silver, and brass, were discovered. They were mostly Roman, or Saxon. Among them was a leaden figure of a horse, the head of which was so admirably executed as hardly to be inferior to some of the heads on the Elgin marbles. Caution, however, was necessary in the adoption of these antiquities, as attempts were made to circulate spurious fabrications.

*Aug. 8. DEATH OF MR. CANNING.*—This highly-gifted orator and statesman expired in the 57th year of his age, at Chiswick, a villa of the duke of Devonshire, and the same in which Charles James Fox died. Mr. Canning's death was occasioned by an inflammation of the kidneys; a painful disease, aggravated, probably, by uneasiness of mind and the over-excitement consequent on his elevation to the premiership. He was born in the parish of Marylebone, of a respectable and talented, but straitened family. He enjoyed, however, the advantages of a superior education, and at Eton was not less remarkable for assiduous scholastic application than the display of those shining abilities in rhetoric and literary composition for which he was afterwards distinguished. At this foundation he formed an intimacy with the Jenkinsons, while, through his mother's acquaintance with Mr. Sheridan, he kept up a social intercourse with the whigs. Without fortune or high station, it was necessary, with a view to his future support and distinction, that he should enter himself a cadet of one of the two great political parties. Contrary to anticipation, Mr. Canning's choice fell upon the Tories, and in 1793 he became representative, in the house of commons, of the treasury borough of Newport. His maiden speech, in the following year (*Jan. 31st*) was not relished—it was too ambitious; the speaker had, however, the good sense to profit by the faults of a first attempt, but never entirely mastered them. In 1799 he married Miss Joan Scott, with a fortune of 100,000*l.*, and one of the three daughters of general Scott, whose immense riches had been made by play. By his oratory in the senate, and his pen in the *Anti-jacobin*, he rendered effective support, during the war, to the measures of the Pitt ministry. Mr. Canning had much wit, and a taste for invective and ridicule, which he not unfrequently disfigured by virulence. With these weapons he battered the Addingtons after the peace of Amiens, and "All the Talents," as they were termed, in 1806. He was a clever partisan, but occasionally failed in candour, dignity, and generosity, in his political hostilities. He agreed with the Grenvilles on several of their measures (as the abolition of the slave-trade), though

he bitterly reviled their administration; and he accepted office in the Portland ministry, though he despised the prejudiced alarm upon which it had been established. He thought lightly of the abilities of lord Castlereagh; and that minister, resenting the success of a cabinet intrigue, by which he was sought to be displaced, they fought a duel, then became reconciled, and Mr. Canning accepted a subordinate situation under his lordship. On catholic emancipation the extent of his offending was limited to holding office with those by whom it was opposed, and suffering the question to remain in abeyance; but in truth it could not have been carried, either with the concurrence of the people or the king. In these movements there was a giving way to expediency, but not absolute dereliction of principle. Indeed, the character of Mr. Canning for private honour and public consistency cannot be seriously impugned. That he was arrogant, vain, and assuming, may be allowed, but he had the manliness to avow his sentiments, and did not meanly desert them. Rather than participate in the proceedings against queen Caroline, although allowed by his colleagues to take no part against that unhappy princess, he retired from office. This redeemed, in the estimate of many, his political reputation, which had suffered from apparent truckling for office, his strenuous support of the Six Acts, and his contemptuous revilings of constitutional reform. He was long the efficient representative of Liverpool, and of this distinction no rival candidate, though four times tried, could deprive him. The death of the marquis of Londonderry removed a *checkmate* in his official career, and, in lieu of an honourable exile as governor-general in India, he became secretary for foreign affairs. It was the era of a new course of statesmanship, signalled by a more marked dissent from the Holy Alliance, and an amelioration, which the changes of the times had rendered politic, in our navigation and commercial laws. Upon these points, and also in the conduct adopted towards Portugal, Greece, and the American republics, Mr. Canning coincided more in sentiment with the Opposition than with many of his colleagues. It was this conformity, which the current of circumstances, more than inclination, forced upon him, that won for him the support of a large section of the whigs on his elevation to the premiership. This last prize of political ambition he did not long possess, and never, perhaps, for a moment enjoyed, through failing health and the bitterness of opponents. Had he lived it may be doubted whether he would have long been able to

maintain himself at the head of affairs, opposed as he was by his own party, and dependent mainly on the volunteer aid of the whigs. His declaration against the dissenters was indiscreet: he was too personally susceptible of, as well as obnoxious to, attack, and lacked that gravity of character and intellect essential to the steady government of an empire. Still he was a man of brilliant accomplishments, uniting in an eminent degree the graces of scholarship, of gentlemanly bearing, and high political ability; which, with great personal advantages, elegant manners, forgiving temper, affectionateness, and conciliatory address, rendered him, particularly in the latter years of his life, an object of very general admiration and attachment. His eloquence was singularly felicitous, correct, copious, and classically ornate: it was not, however, of the first order, and won more by beauties of style, and amusing display of ridicule and humour, than depth of reasoning, or energetic appeals to lofty principles. To the philanthropic class of legislators, indeed, Mr. Canning never seemed to aspire. It was with the grandeur of the nation, rather than its happiness, that he sympathised; the renown of its naval and military achievements, its commercial opulence, and the splendour and luxury of its aristocratic orders. Minor domestic innovations, that were harmless or useful, or opposed only by prejudice, he did not oppose, but organic changes he resolutely set his face against, and that often by reasoning of a superficial or selfish import. Under a monarchy he was born, had thriven, and hoped to die, formed the staple of his arguments on parliamentary reform, against which he annually raised his beaver, dealt his gibes, and rounded his periods; and which savoured more of the adventuring politician of the school of Wilkes or Walpole than of the patriot. A trait of Mr. Canning is mentioned by sir Wm. Knighton, that seems hardly reconcilable with the general constitution of his mind. He had no taste for, nor derived any gratification from, contemplating the most finished productions of the pencil. It was only the realities of life, not the creations of sentiment or of the imagination, with which he sympathised. He was a laborious corrector of his speeches, and very fastidious about the phraseology of his orations.

17. **GODERICH MINISTRY.**—Fewer changes than were expected followed the death of Mr. Canning. Lord Goderich became the new premier, as first lord of the treasury, and Mr. Huskisson succeeded his lordship as colonial secretary. A difficulty arose about the new chancellor of the exchequer. Tierney, Huskisson, and

Sturges Bourne declined the office, and it was at last given to Mr. Herries, who had been secretary to the treasury under lord Liverpool, and who had resigned, with his colleagues, on the promotion of Mr. Canning. The whigs of the cabinet were displeased with this appointment, and lord Lansdowne tendered his resignation. They objected to the chancellor of the exchequer, both on political grounds and as a nominee of the king, till it was explained that Mr. Herries was not the choice of the king, but of lord Goderich. Lord Harrowby retired, and was succeeded by the duke of Portland, and the earl of Carlisle became the new privy seal. The duke of Wellington resumed the command of the army, but without a seat in the cabinet. In Ireland, the vacant chancellorship was filled up by sir Anthony Hart, who was succeeded in the vice-chancellorship by Mr. Shadwell. The following is the list of the Goderich ministry,—the third in the space of seven months:—

Lord Goderich, *First Lord of the Treasury.*

Mr. Herries, *Chancellor of the Exchequer.*

Lord Dudley and Ward, *Foreign Secretary.*

Marquis of Lansdowne, *Home Secretary.*

Mr. Huskisson, *Colonial Secretary.*

Lord Lyndhurst, *Lord Chancellor.*

Duke of Portland, *President of the Council.*

Earl of Carlisle, *Privy Seal.*

Lord Palmerston, *Secretary at War.*

Marquis of Anglesey, *Master General of the Ordnance.*

C. Grant, *President of the Board of Trade, and Treasurer of the Navy.*

C. W. Wynn, *President of the Board of Control.*

Lord Bexley, *Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.*

Mr. Tierney, *Master of the Mint.*

Sturges Bourne, *Surveyor of Woods and Forests.*

Lord Goderich, who was suffering from some domestic bereavement, offered to resign before the end of the year, and it was with difficulty his administration held together till Christmas.

Sept. 8. A steam-carriage, to travel on common roads, made an excursion to Highgate; it proceeded at the rate of thirteen miles per hour, and its motions were easily directed by the conductor.

20. Sale of the great whig club-chair took place at the Crown and Anchor tavern.

29. **NORTHERN EXPEDITIONS.**—Captain Parry returned from an unsuccessful attempt to reach the north-pole over the ice.



Reaching in the *Hecla* the appointed place off the Spitzbergen coast, he took to the sledge-boats, and was out for sixty-one days; one of the boats being under his own care, the other under that of lieutenant Ross. The boats were hauled over the ice by the ship's crew—twelve men to each; and, after undergoing incredible fatigue, they found that for a great part of the time they were on floating icebergs, which carried them southward, while they were straining every nerve to proceed northward. Of course the enterprise was abandoned. They reached lat.  $82^{\circ} 45'$ ; during the last three days of their unavailing efforts the boats had gained only three miles. About the same time captain Franklin and doctor Richardson arrived from their exploratory expedition to the north-west coast of America. After descending Mackenzie river, captains Franklin and Back had coasted westward to the  $150^{\text{th}}$  deg. W. long. They met with no considerable indentation on the coast, but it gradually tended northward, almost as far as they penetrated, to lat.  $72^{\circ} 30'$ , when it seemed to run nearly west.

Oct. 20. BATTLE OF NAVARINO.—Sultan Mahmoud declining the mediation of the combined powers (see July 6th), an action ensued with the Turkish and Egyptian fleet, anchored in the bay of Navarino. Ibrahim Pacha having received a large reinforcement of troops from Egypt, and orders from Constantinople to put down the insurrection on land, he recommenced the war furiously against the Greeks. All found in arms were put to the sword, and the Morea laid waste. It was to arrest his desolating course, and compel him to accede to an armistice, that the combined fleets of England, France, and Russia, entered the harbour. If Ibrahim refused to listen to a pacific overture, his fleet was to be destroyed or captured. With this understanding admiral Codrington entered the bay, followed by the French ships, under De Rigny, and the Russian squadron. They found the Ottoman fleet ranged at the bottom of the bay, in the form of a crescent. The battle began, apparently without plan on either side, by a discharge of musquetry from the Turks. It soon became general. Codrington, in the *Asia*, opened upon the Egyptian admiral, and reduced him to a wreck, as he had previously done the ship of the capitana Bey, on the starboard. All the other ships of the line, and the frigates, were equally well employed in silencing their opponents. The conflict lasted with great fury four hours. At the end the enemy had disappeared, and the bay was strewn with the fragments of his ships. Among the allies the loss of the English was greatest. They

had 75 men killed and 197 wounded. News of the disaster produced a strong feeling of resentment at Constantinople, but no actual outbreak of hostility. The sultan, by the destruction of the Janissaries, had extinguished the elements of popular violence. Under the old system, no christian could have appeared in the streets with safety. Such satisfaction being demanded by the Porte as the allied ambassadors could not grant, they withdrew from the Turkish capital in December.

Nov. 6. In the admiralty court lord Stowell gave sentence in the matter of the slave Grace, who had been to England, and on her return to Antigua had been reclaimed as a slave by her master. The slavery of Grace was confirmed by his lordship, in a very elaborate judgment. Lord Mansfield had, in 1771, overruled the dictum of lord Hardwicke, by declaring that the owners of slaves had no power over them in *England*, nor could they compel them to return to the colonies. Prior to this judgment the personal traffic in slaves resident in England had been as public in London as in the West India islands. They were openly sold on the royal exchange.

9. Annual banquet at Guildhall interrupted by the falling of an anchor in variegated lamps, which had been carelessly affixed to a board, over the heads of the lord-mayor and lady-mayoreess. The crash spread indescribable alarm: dukes, judges, servants, and trumpeters, were intermixed, and looking with astonishment in each other's faces. After a time the anxiety at the lower part of the hall was relieved, by the toast-master's announcing that "all was safe;" the lady-mayoreess only having her dress damaged by the oil, and the lord-mayor his head lacerated by the glass.

10. It is ascertained that there are not assets to pay one shilling in the pound of the duke of York's debts.

27. Shop of Grimaldi and Johnson, watchmakers, in the Strand, robbed of property to the amount of 6000*l.*; the thieves are supposed to have entered through an adjoining coffee-house. The property was recovered by negotiation with the burglars.

28. Warwick mail robbed of bank-notes to the amount of 20,000*l.*

Dec. 1. The gothic palace, which had stood unfinished in Kew-gardens for twenty years, having been sold in lots, is in course of being pulled down.

10. Mr. Eneas Macdonnell found guilty of a libel at Dublin, in charging arch-deacon Trench with bigamy, and the guilt of procuring livings for young men in the

church, with a view to induce them to marry his illegitimate daughters.

20. The marquis of Lansdowne directs a daily report of the proceedings at each metropolitan police-office to be drawn up, so that there may be a mutual exchange of information between the several offices, whereby the detection of offenders may be facilitated.

The copyrights of the works of sir Walter Scott, which belonged to the sequestered estate of Constable and Co., were sold by auction. They consisted of the novels and tales, from "Waverley" to "Quentin Durward," together with various shares of his poetical works. They were put up in one lot, and after a keen contest knocked down to Mr. Cadell for 8500*l*.

30. Don Miguel arrived in London.

POPULAR EDUCATION.—A society was established this year for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge, consisting chiefly of public characters of eminence, and individuals distinguished by their literary and scientific attainments. The proceedings of the society commenced with *A Discourse of the Objects, Advantages, and Pleasures of Science*, ascribed to Mr. Brougham. In the announcement of the society it is stated, that the object of the association is strictly limited to "the imparting useful information to all classes of the community, particularly to such as are unable to avail themselves of experienced teachers, or may prefer learning by themselves." The plan proposed for the attainment of this end is, the periodical publication, under the superintendence of a committee, of treatises on science, metaphysics, ethics, and political philosophy; to which histories of science, of nations, and of individuals, are to be added.

CONDITION OF THE LABOURING CLASSES.—The inquiries of the Emigration Committee of the house of commons indicated a great deterioration in the circumstances of the people of the United Kingdom, more particularly in agricultural districts, where wages have been so depressed by competition for employment, that the labourer is compelled to live chiefly on bread and potatoes, seldom tasting meat and beer. From the evidence laid before the committee, it felt justified in reporting,—“That there are extensive districts in England and Scotland where the population is at the present moment *redundant*: in other words, where there exists a considerable proportion of *able-bodied* and active labourers beyond the number to which any existing demand for labour can afford employment.” As a remedy, the committee proposed a national system of colonization in the British settlements of North America, the Cape of Good Hope, Australia, and

Van Diemen's Land—countries abounding in extensive tracts of fertile land, capable of supporting any portion of the surplus population of the empire. In the opinion of sir Wilmot Horton, the annual expenditure of about a quarter of a million would be sufficient to carry off the yearly accumulating excess of labour that had been mainly instrumental in the depression of the working classes.

STATE OF FRANCE.—The agriculturists of France, like those of England, complained of low prices; there were likewise complaints of commercial difficulties, and want of employment for the labouring classes. M. St. Cric, president of the French board of trade, admitted a large portion of the population was badly fed, clothed, and lodged. The contests between the royalists and liberals continued with undiminished bitterness. The court sought to extend the influence of the jésuits, though the existence of the order in the kingdom was illegal; and attempts were made to circumscribe the influence of the press, by oppressive duties and restrictions before publication. During a review of the national guards, April 29th, the king was greeted with vehement cries from the ranks of *à bas les ministres*. Next morning a decree appeared, by which the whole national guard of Paris was disbanded. This was a bold measure. The national guard consisted of 40,000 men, armed and equipped at their own expense; they belonged mostly to the middling classes, whose feelings they represented. It was followed by the re-establishment of the censorship, which the minister had power to do during the adjournment or prorogation of the chambers. The chamber of peers had shown more dignity and independence than the deputies, and had often thwarted or altered the measures of government. To subdue this refractoriness, seventy-six new peers, all slavishly devoted to the cabinet, were created. At the end of the year the chamber of deputies was dissolved, and every device resorted to by the court to influence the elections. Such, however, was the general unpopularity of the administration, that both royalists and liberals combined to defeat the ministerial candidates. In December, M. Villele resigned the premiership. The great defect of his government had been the common one, of being carried on with a view to the retention of power.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—John Mason Good, M.D., 62, author of several works on science and literature. John Jones, LL.D., author of the "Greek Lexicon," &c. William Mitford, F.S.A., 83, author of a "History of Greece." Philip Rundell, 81, the eminent silversmith of Ludgate-hill, who is sup-



posed to have died worth two millions, though he distributed among his relations, during his life-time, 145,000*l.*, exclusive of 10,000*l.* in donations to strangers in blood. In Switzerland, M. Pestalozzi, 82, author of a system of education that bears his name. At Paris, Caulaincourt duke of Vicenza, 54, a confidential officer of Buonaparte, under the empire. William Kitchener, M.D., 50, an ingenious writer on cookery, optics, and music. Marquis de la Place, 78, a mathematician of the first class, and peer of France: La Place was the son of a husbandman, and minister of the interior during the consulate. Volta, 85, a celebrated Italian philosopher, who died on the same day with La Place. At Chiswick, Ugo Foscolo, 50, a distinguished Italian writer, resident in England, and contributor to the *Quarterly*, *Edinburgh*, and *Westminster Reviews*. George Dodd, 44, the original designer of Waterloo-bridge, and a premature victim of perversity of mind and inveterate habits of intemperance. At Naples, cardinal Ruffo, 83: he distinguished himself in the re-conquest of Naples from the French, in 1799, and was almost the last churchman who took a personal share in military affairs. At Paris, Helen Maria Williams, 69, a lady of literary celebrity. At Sockattoo, captain Hugh Clapperton, 40, the celebrated African traveller. Sir Thomas Munro, governor of Madras. Henry Salt, British consul-general in Egypt, and author of "A Voyage to Abyssinia."

A.D. 1828. Jan. 5. The sultan issued an order for the banishment of 120 English, 132 French, and 85 Russians, settled in the Turkish empire.

12. Second irruption of water into the Thames-tunnel. Six workmen drowned.

25. WELLINGTON MINISTRY.—The Goderich ministry had been constructed, but never was cemented. Lord Goderich had neither taste nor talent for his situation, and offered to resign almost immediately after his appointment. Differences on the great questions affecting Ireland, the corn-laws, and finance, formed sources of weakness and disunion. The appointment of Mr. Herries to be chancellor of the exchequer appears from the first to have been viewed by the whigs as an unbearable grievance; and during the winter recess there was a manifest design, on the part of this section of the cabinet, either to withhold from Mr. Herries his proper consideration in the government, or eject him from office. This is shown by the arrangement made by Mr. Tierney and Mr. Huskisson, and assented to by lord Goderich, for the nomination, on the meeting of parliament, of a finance committee, of which lord Althorp was to be chairman. Of this arrangement

no communication was made to Mr. Herries; and it was only in consequence of Mr. Tierney dropping into the colonial office, with a list of the committee in his pocket, while Mr. Herries happened to be present, that he became acquainted with a proceeding so intimately connected with the business of his own department. There may have been solid objections to Mr. Herries filling his situation; they may have been such as the inquiries of a finance committee, directed by an unflinching chairman, might have brought to light; but, whatever they were, they have not been publicly stated. One thing only is certain—the chancellor of the exchequer did not possess the confidence of the Lansdowne section of his colleagues. Either piqued by the slight he had received, or objecting on public grounds to the proposed constitution of the finance committee, Mr. Herries signified to lord Goderich that, if the nomination of lord Althorp to the chair was persisted in, he should resign. On the other hand, Mr. Huskisson informed the premier that, if the arrangement about the committee was not carried out, he should resign. Perplexed by the cross fire of his friends, lord Goderich escaped by resigning himself, and terminated an administration which, from its origin, contained the seeds of dissolution. The king, thus abandoned by his ministers, to whom, he said, he would have been true, if they had been true to themselves (*Ann. Reg.*, lxx. 12), sent for the duke of Wellington, and commissioned him to form a new cabinet, with himself at the head. His grace immediately entered into communication with Mr. Peel, and other members of lord Liverpool's ministry, who had seceded on the elevation of Mr. Canning. With the exception of lord Lyndhurst as chancellor, in lieu of lord Eldon, and lord Dudley as foreign secretary, in place of Mr. Canning, the *personale* of the Liverpool ministry remained nearly unchanged. The whig cohort, that had joined Mr. Canning on account of his liberal principles, was alone excluded. Even Mr. Huskisson and Mr. Herries, whose collision had been so fatal, remained portions of the new ministry, Mr. Huskisson continuing to be colonial secretary, and Mr. Herries becoming master of the mint, in place of Mr. Tierney. The junction of Mr. Huskisson and his friends with the politicians from whom they had recently received such spiteful treatment was far from agreeable to the public. It savoured more of a love of place than of the liberal principles they professed to admire. A consciousness of loss of character, which he was wishful to redeem, seems to have influenced Mr. Huskisson's

subsequent conduct, and speedily led to further changes. At Liverpool Mr. Huskisson informed his constituents, in ministerial style, that he had obtained "guarantees" for the future liberal course of the government. The duke fired at the word, and (house of lords, Feb. 11) repelled, with contemptuous contradiction, the imputation that he had bound himself by any security. "Pledges," said his grace, "had neither been asked nor given, and if they had been asked they would have been indignantly refused." Mr. Huskisson explained, in the commons, by "guarantees" to mean only that the fact of he and his friends continuing to hold the offices they did formed a security of the future course of the ministry. This passed till the East Retford affair (May 19th), when Mr. Huskisson, in the redemption of a pledge he had given, dividing against the ministerial leader, Mr. Peel (and he was the only member of the government that did so) voted in favour of the transfer of the franchise of that corrupt borough to Birmingham. This he followed up by a note, the same night, to the premier, informing him that, in consequence of what had happened in the house, he lost no time in "affording him an opportunity of placing his office in other hands." The duke took him at his word. According to the plain import of the note, Mr. Huskisson had resigned, and his grace inferred that he would not continue in office, unless requested by him so to do. This was a condescension to which his grace thought the government, of which he was the head, ought not to submit. Mr. Huskisson and his friends in vain tried to give a different meaning to his hasty communication, to the effect that he had, indeed, by his note, placed his office at the disposal of the duke, but that he had not resigned, nor intended to resign. The duke was inexorable. Upon lord Dudley writing to him with this saving glossary, and to prove that the duke was mistaken, his grace finally replied, "It is no mistake, it can be no mistake, and it shall be no mistake." Thus terminated all hope. Mr. Huskisson had always been in office, and his persevering efforts to propitiate his obdurate master showed that he was unconquerably fond of official life. He was accompanied in his retirement by lord Palmerston, lord Dudley, and Mr. C. Grant. The duke of Wellington's ministry then stood as follows:—

Duke of Wellington, *First Lord of the Treasury.*

Henry Goulburn, *Chancellor of the Exchequer.*

Lord Lyndhurst, *Lord Chancellor.*

Earl Bathurst, *President of the Council.*

Lord Ellenborough, *Lord Privy Seal.*

Robert Peel, *Home Secretary.*

Earl of Aberdeen, *Foreign Secretary.*

Sir George Murray, *Colonial Secretary.*

John Charles Herries, *Master of the Mint.*

Viscount Melville, *President of the India Board.*

W. V. Fitzgerald, *Treasurer of the Navy, and President of the Board of Trade.*

Duke of Clarence, *Lord High Admiral.*

Sir Henry Hardinge, *Secretary at War*  
Viscount Beresford, *Master-General of the Ordnance.*

Duke of Montrose, *Lord Chamberlain.*

Marquis of Conyngham, *Lord Steward.*

Duke of Leeds, *Master of the Horse.*

Marquis of Winchester, *Groom of the Stole.*

Charles Arbuthnot, *Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.*

John Calcraft, *Paymaster of the Forces.*

Viscount Lowther, *First Commissioner of the Land Revenue.*

Thomas P. Courtenay, *Vice-President of the Board of Trade.*

Duke of Manchester, *Postmaster-General.*

Sir Wm. H. Clinton, *Lieutenant-General of the Ordnance.*

Sir C. Wetherell, *Attorney-General.*

Sir Nicholas C. Tindal, *Solicitor-General.*

#### IN IRELAND—

Marquis of Anglesey, *Lord Lieutenant.*

Sir Anthony Hart, *Lord Chancellor.*

Sir John Byng, *Commander of the Forces.*

Lord Francis Leveson Gower, *Chief Secretary.*

Sir G. Fitzgerald Hill, *Vice Treasurer.*

Henry Joy, *Attorney-General.*

John O'Doherty, *Solicitor-General.*

The first eleven formed the CABINET. The duke of Wellington, on becoming first lord of the treasury, immediately resigned his office of commander-in-chief of the army, and was succeeded by lord Hill. In the autumn the duke of Clarence resigned the office of lord high admiral, in consequence, it was said, of the minister objecting to the money his royal highness expended in costly and unprofitable tours of naval inspection. Lord Melville again became first lord of the admiralty, and lord Ellenborough succeeded him as president of the India board. Circumstances had thus brought the duke to the head of the government, as unexpectedly to himself as the country. He had in the preceding year (*May 2d*) declared that he would have been "mad" to give up his office of commander-in-chief, for which he was suited, for that of prime-minister, for which he was neither suited nor qualified. (*Parl. Deb. N. S. xvii. 461.*)



29. **PARLIAMENT** opened by commission. The royal speech chiefly referred to the affairs of the East; the rights of neutral nations were violated by the revolting excesses of the Greeks and Turks; the battle of Navarino, with an "ancient ally," was lamented as an "untoward event," but hopes expressed that it might not lead to further hostilities: increase of exports, and of employment for the people, were dwelt upon as indications of returning prosperity. Addresses passed both houses without a division. The phrase "untoward" was objected to by lords Lansdowne and Goderich, and lord Holland said, our relations with Turkey were only those of amity, not of alliance. The duke of Wellington maintained that the Ottoman empire was an ancient ally of Britain; that it formed an essential part of the balance of power; and that the maintenance of its independent existence was more than ever an object of European policy. Mr. Brougham said, he would judge the new ministry according to their acts; the "soldier" was abroad, so was the "schoolmaster," and he had no fear of the result.

Feb. 1. The grand-master of the university of Paris charged with the superintendence of popular education, formerly under the direction of the minister for ecclesiastical affairs.

7. Rev. Robert Taylor, who had been convicted of a blasphemous libel, was sentenced to one year's imprisonment.

**STATE OF THE LAW.**—Mr. Brougham, in a speech, on the 7th, that occupied upwards of six hours in the delivery, directed the attention of the house of commons to the state of the law and courts of law. He dwelt especially on imperfections in the rules of court; on the want of classification of suits, and their appropriation to different courts; the evils of the Welsh judicature; the incompetency of the privy-council, as a court of last resort in colonial matters; evils of the magistracy, and their irresponsible powers; different laws and customs in different parts of England; imperfections in the rules of evidence, by excluding testimony of interested persons; absurdities of the pleadings; debtor laws—oppressive in arrest on mesne process—unequal in exemption of land from seizure, in some cases chattels, in others money and stock; costs exorbitant, often refused between party and party, but allowed between attorney and client; bankrupt laws admit of much improvement. On the suggestion of the solicitor-general, the discussion was adjourned, and resumed on the 28th: the result was the appointment of two commissions one to inquire into the

state of the common law, the other into the laws of real property.

15. Finance committee appointed, on the motion of Mr. Secretary Peel, with a view to a better management of the public revenue.

18. Princess Feodore, daughter of the duchess of Kent by her first marriage, married to the prince Hohenlohe-Laungenberg.

22. Peace between Persia and Russia.

26. Lord John Russell's motion for a repeal of the Test and Corporation Acts carried by a majority of 237 to 193. Opposed by Peel, Huskisson, and Palmerston. A declaration in lieu of the oaths, having been framed by ministers, the repeal bill was adopted by them, and it passed the upper house, and became law, with little opposition.

28. On a launch at Manchester, the vessel, in descending the stocks, heeled and upset. Upwards of 200 persons, who were on board, were thrown into the river, and 51 lost their lives.

29. Fall of the New Brunswick theatre, Wellclose-square, during a rehearsal, by which one of the proprietors, four of the actors, and seven others, lost their lives. It had only been opened on the 25th. The accident was owing to the roof having been loaded with a weight which the walls were unable to bear. The walls were only 22 inches thick; the roof was of cast-iron. The roof itself had not been considered too heavy for the walls; but the proprietors, contrary to the opinion of the architect, had suspended from it the carpenters' shop, and various cumbrous pieces of stage furniture.

Mar. 1. Disturbances in Lisbon: the mob loud in their acclamations of "Long live Miguel, the absolute king!"

4. Court of aldermen, London, rescinded the standing order, made in 1785, that baptized Jews should not be admitted to the freedom of the city. The decision was now come to in the case of Messrs. Saul, who for thirteen years had been petitioning for leave to carry on business in the city.

19. Wreck of the *Venus* steam-packet, from Waterford to Dublin, occasioned first by the breaking of the engine, and next by the cowardly desertion of the vessel by the captain and part of the crew. Nine persons left behind were drowned.

20. *Gazette* announced the scale of distribution of the Deccan prize-money, among the forces concerned in the Indian campaigns of 1817 and 1818. According to this scale the share of the booty, to the commander-in-chief, was 44,201*l.*; of a captain, 119*l.*; of a private, 19*s.* 10*d.*

29. British armament quitted Portugal, with the exception of two regiments, that remained till the end of the ensuing month. Don Miguel, by dissolving the chambers and restoring the ancient mode of election, was fast re-establishing the old despotism.

*Apr. 7.* Captain Dillon, of the *Research*, arrived at Calcutta, having ascertained the fate of the unfortunate French navigator, La Perouse. The *Research* brought to Calcutta various articles of the wrecks of the lost vessels.

10. In the court of arches, the marriage of the earl of Portsmouth with Miss Hanson, the daughter of his principal trustee, declared null and void, on the ground of the earl's insanity, and that the marriage had been effected by fraud and circumvention.

14. A shower of herring-fry found on the farm of major Mackenzie, of Fodderty, in Ross-shire. They are supposed to have been conveyed thither in a water-spout; the Frith of Dingwall lying only three miles distant, and nothing between the field and sea to obstruct their transit.

17. Committee of Edinburgh professors report favourably on Mr. Gall's books for the blind, and his apparatus for writing letters, &c., which blind persons are capable of reading after they have written them. Mr. Gall proposed to print, by subscription, the gospel of St. John, in relief, as a specimen of the practicability of his art.

18. The French commence the evacuation of Spain, which they had occupied since 1823. A vote passed the chamber of deputies, but was rejected by the peers, for subjecting the deputies to re-election on accepting certain offices under government.

26. Russia declared war against Turkey. The grievances alleged in the declaration are the infraction of treaties, the violation of the Russian flag, and the intrigues of the Porte at the court of Persia. The objects of the war are declared to be the future inviolable liberty of commerce on the Black Sea, and the navigation of the Bosphorus. In reply, the sultan considered the grievances of Russia imaginary, and expressed his indignation at the treaty of July 6th, and at the affair of Navarino.

*May 8.* CATHOLIC CLAIMS.—Sir F. Burdett moved for a committee of the whole house on this subject, with a view to a conciliatory adjustment. The debate was continued on the 9th and 10th. On a division, the motion for a committee was carried by 272 against 266; in the preceding session it had been lost by a majority of four. On the 16th, sir Francis moved that the resolution be communicated

to the lords in a free conference, and their lordships' concurrence requested. This being agreed to, and the conference held, the resolution was reported to the lords, who took it into consideration June 9th. The debate was opened by the marquis of Lansdowne, and lasted two days. The duke of Wellington opposed the resolution, not on any doctrinal points, but on the ground of expediency, and the church government of the catholics being unconnected with the civil government of the empire. Resolution lost by 181 to 137; but the moderate tone of the prime-minister was supposed to augur favourably.

13. American tariff-bill, imposing duties on the principal articles of English manufacture, amounting almost to prohibition, passed the American senate.

22. First half-quarterly sessions of the Westminster magistrates; the sessions in future to be held eight times a-year, instead of quarterly.

*June 15.* Accident in the church of Kirkaldy, in Scotland, by the falling of a gallery, during the assembly of about 2000 persons, to hear the rev. Edward Irving. Twenty-eight persons were killed, and 150 injured, chiefly through the rush down the stair-cases and in the door-way, the strong, in their convulsive efforts to escape, trampling to death the weak.

21. Meeting at the Freemasons' tavern, preliminary to the establishment of king's-college, for the education of the youth of the metropolis in the principles of the established church: duke of Wellington in the chair.

23. It having been ascertained by the finance committee that 250,000*l.* had been, by order of the treasury, paid over, without consent of parliament, to the commissioners of woods and forests, by the commissioners for liquidating the claims of British subjects on the French government, and subsequently expended in the repairs of Buckingham-house, Mr. Taylor moved that the application of any sum of unappropriated money to uses not voted by the house, was a misapplication and violation of the privileges of the house. Messrs. Herries, Arbutnot, Peel, and Huskisson, spoke against the resolution, which was negatived by 181 to 102.

24. New London corn-exchange opened.

ENDURANCE OF HEAT.—An experiment made at Pais, in the presence of Dr. Robertson and others, to ascertain the power of a man to endure heat. He was a Spaniard, and clothed in flannel, was shut in an oven, constructed in the form of a dome. At the first experiment he sang a Spanish song, while a fowl was roasting



by his side. His pulse was 72 at entering, and rose to 130. At the second experiment his pulse rose to 176, and the thermometer indicated a heat of 100 degrees of Reaumur. At the third experiment he was stretched on a plank surrounded with lighted candles, and then put into the oven, the mouth of which was this time closed. He was there five minutes, when all the spectators cried "enough." The Spaniard, whose pulse was 200 at coming out of this gulf of heat, immediately threw himself into a cold bath, and, two or three minutes after, was on his feet quite well.

27. Grimaldi, who had long been the favourite clown at the theatres, took his leave of the stage. He was only in his forty-eighth year, but his professional exertions had left premature signs of old age.

July 3. The Miguelites took possession of Oporto, and the marquis Palmella and other constitutionalists embarked for England.

4. Mr. Montgomery, who had been convicted of forgery, and for whose pardon great interest had been used, committed suicide on the morning appointed for his execution, by swallowing prussic acid.

Lord William Bentinck arrived at Calcutta and assumed the office of governor general.

5. Daniel O'Connell elected M.P. for the county of Clare, in opposition to Vesey Fitzgerald, a cabinet minister. The contest had excited great interest, because Mr. O'Connell was a catholic, who, though eligible to be elected, could not sit without taking the oaths against popery. He, however, told the electors he could sit and vote in the house of commons without taking the oaths, and Mr. Butler, a catholic barrister of eminence, published an elaborate opinion to the same effect. Mr. Fitzgerald was an emancipationist, but objected to on the ground of belonging to an anti-catholic administration, and the election was carried triumphantly against him by the forty-shilling freeholders.

10. Budget opened by the chancellor of the exchequer; it announced the intention of government to adopt the recommendation of the financial committee, and, for the future, to reduce the nominal amount of the sinking fund to that of the actual surplus of the revenue over the expenditure.

21. Died, aged 73, CHARLES MANNERS SUTTON, archbishop of Canterbury. His grace was a grandson of John, third duke of Rutland, and succeeded archbishop Moore in 1805. As a legislator he rarely interfered in secular questions. He was constant in his opposition to the Romanists, but favourable to the Dissenters, and voted

against lord Sidmouth's restrictive bill in 1811. Dr. Howley succeeded to the primacy, and Dr. Blomfield was translated from Chester to the see of London.

JOHN HAMPDEN.—On the 21st the remains of this celebrated parliamentarian were disinterred in Hampden church, Bucks, by lord Nugent and Mr. common sergeant Denman. Different representations by historians had left a doubt by what sort of wound Hampden was killed. The register stated he was interred June 25, 1643. Upon raising the coffin supposed to be his, and unfolding the cloths in which the body had been carefully wrapped, a singular scene presented itself. No regular features were visible, although the face retained a death-like whiteness, and showed the windings of veins beneath the skin. The remains were those of a muscular person, and the colour of the hair a full auburn brown. The bones of the right hand were found apart from the rest and wrapped in a separate cloth. This confirms the account of the patriot's death given by his son-in-law, sir Robert Pye, who says that Hampden's "pistol burst and shattered his hand in a terrible manner;" contrary to the account of Clarendon, Ludlow, and sir Philip Warwick, that he was wounded in the shoulder.

28. Parliament prorogued by commission.

31. French government sent out M. Champollion and other men of letters to investigate the antiquities of Egypt.

Aug. 8. Trial at Bury St. Edmund's of Wm. Corder for the murder, May 18, 1827, of Maria Marten, a young woman with whom he had cohabited and decoyed from her home to a barn near Polstead and there murdered. The prisoner was found guilty, and the night before execution confessed his crime. In the interval between the perpetration and the discovery of the murder, Corder had advertised for a wife. A lady of respectability, who kept a boarding-school near Ealing, answered the advertisement, and they were married.

Sept. 8. In London the Jewish year 5589 ushered in with the preparatory rites observed, on such occasions, by the Israelites. At sunset they assembled at the synagogue, when the usual prayers were read. The congregation remained till between eight and nine o'clock. On their new year's day for the present year (9th inst.) they again assembled at half-past five o'clock in the morning to celebrate the Feast of Trumpets, in commemoration of Abraham offering up his son. At ten o'clock the trumpets were sounded, which announced the commencement of the year, and those who thought proper left the synagogue. They met again at sunset

the same day, when the observance of these rites terminated. No food was allowed till the sounding of the trumpets on either of these days.

13. Proclamation of Bolivar to the Columbians. As minister of the sovereign people, he engaged to obey their legitimate desires, to protect religion, to cause justice to be observed, to discharge the obligations of the republic towards foreign states and individuals, to resign the chief command when the people required its restitution, to convoke the national representation within a year, unless otherwise commanded by the people.

26. York musical festival terminated. It lasted four days and produced 14,623*l*. The expenses were estimated at 12,000*l*. Madame Catalani received 600 guineas, Miss Paton 200, Miss Stephens 200, and Mr. Braham 250.

*Oct.* 1. London University opened.

6. Queen of Portugal arrived in London.

8. Duke of St. Alban's, hereditary grand falconer of England, gave a grand day of falconry at Redbourne. The birds, eight fine falcons, were each chained to a section of a cone of wood about fifteen inches in height and ten inches in diameter at the base. They were unhooded, but belled, and mostly sat at the top of their posts. Six of them were taken for the sports of the day. A dog having pointed, a hawk was unhooded and loosed; it rose, wheeling over the heads of the party, sweeping to the right and left; now rising into the mid-air in the distance, and now attentive to the hawker's call. The partridge was flushed and flew with the wind towards the company, when the hawk suddenly crossed its line of flight, and, seizing it at a height of thirty or forty yards, bore it in its beak, screaming and bleeding, over the heads of the company, conveying it down to the belt of an adjoining plantation. The hawk was recovered. The other flights were not so successful, and some of the hawks flew off and could not be recovered to the hand of the hawker.

24. Great meeting of yeomanry and freeholders on Pennenden-heath. A petition agreed to, praying the house of commons to preserve the protestant constitution inviolate. Lords Darnley, Radnor, and Teynham moved, unsuccessfully, an amendment to the effect that the legislature ought to be left unfettered.

25. St. Katherine's docks opened. They occupy a space of 24 acres, of which 11½ acres are devoted to wet docks. In clearing the ground for the undertaking, 1250 houses were pulled down, and 11,300 inhabitants had to seek accommodations elsewhere. The first stone was laid May 3,

1827, and upwards of 2500 men were employed from that time to the opening.

28. Joseph Hunton, draper, aged fifty-eight, and a respectable quaker, tried and convicted at the Old Bailey of forgery on the bank of Curtis and Co. Strong efforts were made to save him, but the law was allowed to take its course.

*Nov.* 16. Opening of the diet of Sweden. The king's speech noticed the flourishing state of the kingdom, and that a surplus of two millions of dollars remained after defraying the public expenses.

20. Wheat attains a price at which the ports were open to foreign grain at a merely nominal duty.

*Dec.* 9. The repairs and improvements of the domestic apartments of Windsor Castle having been completed, the king took possession of them. Parliament had granted 450,000*l*. for preserving and restoring this ancient seat of the British monarchy. The whole edifice has been raised one story throughout. Several new towers and a new gateway, called king George the Fourth's, have been erected. The alterations were conducted with great ability, so as to retain the principal features of the original fabric with the conveniences of modern civilization. Mr. Jeffrey Wyatville, the architect, received the honour of knighthood.

24. BURKE MURDERS.—William Burke and Helen M'Dougal, a woman with whom he cohabited, were tried before the high court of justiciary for a series of murders, perpetrated in a lodging-house kept by William Hare, in Tanner's-close, Portsburgh, Edinburgh. It appeared, from the trial and subsequent confession of Burke, that he and Hare had been in the habit of decoying persons into the lodging-house, where they first made them intoxicated, and then suffocated them, by one stopping the nose and mouth, the other throwing himself on the lower part of the person to prevent resistance. The bodies were then sold to Dr. Knox for anatomical purposes; and, no marks of violence appearing upon them, no questions were asked nor suspicion felt (though some were delivered at the doctor's museum before the heat had quite left the bodies) respecting the horrid mode in which they had been procured. Upwards of a dozen persons were so smothered and sold. The sale of the body of a lodger who had died a natural death, to liquidate a debt owing to Hare, seems to have first suggested this dreadful traffic. Burke was found guilty and executed *January* 28th, amidst a vast concourse of exulting spectators. He was an Irishman and a Roman catholic.

CATHOLIC ASSOCIATION.—Ireland was



this year the scene of a novel and extraordinary excitement. During the short ministries of Mr. Canning and lord Gode- rich, the Irish catholics remained tranquil, relying that these statesmen only waited a favourable opportunity to press forward their claims. But the ministry of the duke of Wellington and Mr. Peel, two known anti-catholics, left them without hope; and immediately it was formed they evinced towards it a decided aversion. The act of 1825, which suppressed both the Orange societies and the Catholic Association, was never executed; and the latter continued up to July last, when the act expired, its operations with little abatement of activity. Under the direction of this body, a spirit of general and unmitigated hostility to the administration was fostered. The general election had taught them to what extent they could control the votes of the freeholders in the county elections. A more signal instance of their power was given in the return, this summer, of Mr. O'Connell for Clare, in defiance of almost all the landed gentry of the county. At the next general election they calculated that, by the aid of the forty-shilling freeholders, they should be able to return seventy members to parliament. Their aim was not only to obtain control over the *forties* as they termed them, but the entire population. The priests seconded the efforts of the politicians, and itinerant orators roused the people to the assertion of their rights. Every altar, in the language of Mr. Shiel, became a tribune at which the wrongs of Ireland were proclaimed. County and parochial clubs were established in connexion with the Association to enlighten and direct the popular sentiment. The faction-fights at fairs and on saints' days, which had been a main source of crimes and murders, were suspended at the command of this "omnipotent" body. All the energies of the community were directed to the attainment of one great national object. While, however, organization was in progress among the catholics of the south, it was not likely the protestants of the north would remain idle. Orange societies were revived, and Brunswick clubs established. Mr. Lawless, who had arrived in the northern counties on a missionary tour from the Association, was opposed, and riots ensued. Meanwhile the imperial government continued apparently an unconcerned spectator of these proceedings. Not a proclamation was issued against the public meetings of the catholics, nor against their organization, nor their assembling in military array, nor against the eloquent denunciations unceasingly poured forth by O'Connell and Shiel against protestant oppression. Ministers

appear to have supinely watched, with folded arms, the growth of this new power till it became too formidable to be resisted. Mr. Dawson, brother-in-law of Mr. secretary Peel, and himself a minister of the crown, was the first to declare himself a convert to the policy of catholic emancipation. This was followed, in December, by a letter from the duke of Wellington to Dr. Curtis, the titular catholic primate of Ireland, in which his grace expressed his anxiety to witness the settlement of the catholic question. A copy of this letter was furnished to Mr. O'Connell, who forthwith carried it to the Association, where it was received with loud plaudits, and ordered to be recorded in their minutes. A few days after, appeared a letter from the marquis of Anglesea to Dr. Curtis, to the effect that the settlement of the catholic question was unavoidable, and recommending the catholics to continue "to agitate," but refrain from violence, and trust to the legislature. The tenour of this letter was so extraordinary that the marquis was forthwith recalled from the government of Ireland.

FRANCE.—The ministry of M. Villèle fell last year in consequence of having lent themselves to the designs of the court and the church instead of consulting the spirit and intelligence of the nation. Their successors were men of moderate principles and of moderate abilities. They did not enjoy the confidence of the king, neither were they the representatives of any great political party. It was the temporary junction of the liberals with the extreme ultras that raised them to office and kept them there. The measures of the new ministry were of a popular character. A horror of jesuitism prevailed in France as great as had prevailed in England against popery, and the jesuit establishments were suppressed. Greater liberty was given to the press by allowing the publication of periodicals without the previous consent of government. Stricter economy was introduced into the management of the revenue, and the salaries of state functionaries reduced. In the course of the year the last division of the army of occupation returned from Spain, and thus terminated an aggressive expedition, which had gained for France no conceivable object, but had been to her a source of enormous expense.

USURPATION OF DON MIGUEL.—This faithless prince, while in England, carefully concealed his ulterior designs, and, after his arrival at Lisbon, February 22, he took the oath to the constitution as regent in behalf of his niece and betrothed wife, Donna Maria, the rightful queen of Portugal in virtue of the charter of her father,

Don Pedro, the reigning emperor of Brazil. Don Miguel's plans speedily began to unfold themselves. The queen-mother, whose fanaticism and hatred of liberty were notorious, and whose intrigues had long been the plague of the kingdom, recovered her baneful influence. Though Miguel swore to be faithful to the constitution, he selected a ministry that was notoriously hostile to it. The constitutional governors of the provinces, and officers of the army, were dismissed to make room for absolutists. Chaves and his rebellious legions were recalled from Madrid: addresses were procured from the municipalities praying Miguel to assume the crown, and the rabble were encouraged in their cries for an absolute king. Sir Frederick Lamb, seeing this turn of affairs, countermanded, on his own responsibility, the departure of the British troops from the Tagus; and ordered a loan that had arrived from England for Miguel to be sent back. Orders, however, subsequently arrived from home that the British troops were not to be detained, which threw the constitutionalists into despair. At Oporto, there was a show of resistance, but it was speedily overcome by the followers of the usurper. Miguel dissolved the chamber of deputies, and convoked the cortes of Lamego, the ancient three estates of the kingdom, who had not met since 1697. Without a moment's hesitation or debate, this assembly, June 26th, decided by acclamation that Miguel was the only legal sovereign: which the prince confirmed two days after by an ordinance, and formally assumed the title of "Don Miguel, by the grace of God, king of Portugal and the Algarves." Immediately followed a most vindictive persecution of the constitutionalists by beheading and imprisoning them, and confiscating their property. In the beginning of October 1600 persons were confined in the prison of Limoeiro alone for political offences. About 15,000 were imprisoned on similar charges throughout Portugal, or were compelled to fly to avoid the scaffold or the dungeon. The ambassadors of all foreign states quitted Lisbon, except those of Spain and the pope, immediately Miguel took the title of king.

**RUSSIA AND TURKEY.**—The war between these powers had originated in what had been the constant object of Russian policy since the days of Catherine, the extension of the Russian frontier at the expense of Turkey. The destruction of the Turkish fleet at Navarino left admiral Greig undisputed master of the Black Sea. On land 115,000 Russians were assembled in May to open the campaign on the Danube. Their plan was to cross that river at

Brailow after making themselves masters of that fortress, and then advance against the strong positions of Varna and Shumla. These mastered, the passages across the lofty ridge of Mount Hæmus, now called the Balkan, would be opened, and they might pour down into the plains of Adrianople, or repose during the winter in the cities they had conquered. Such was the scheme, but was only in part executed. The Turks fought bravely and with unusual science. Brailow was taken, but Varna with a garrison of 40,000 men was resolutely defended for eleven weeks by Hussein Pacha, and was only at length mastered by treachery. The losses of the Russians were so great that the enterprise against Shumla was abandoned, and they retreated across the Danube with the loss of their baggage. The emperor Nicholas was with the army during part of the campaign, and did not return to Petersburg till October.

**LIBERATION OF GREECE.**—The war between the oppressor and pretended patron of Greece was favourable to her independence. Ibrahim found himself condemned to inactivity, and in danger of starvation, if he remained in the Morea. The exhausted country could not supply his army; the sultan could spare him no assistance, and his communication with Egypt was prevented by the allied fleets. To escape from his difficulties, he concluded, in concert with his father, the pacha of Egypt, a convention with admiral Codrington for the evacuation of the Peloponnesus. Five fortresses only were excepted from the convention. These were chiefly garrisoned by Turks and Albanians, over whom the Pacha of Egypt could not pretend to have authority. But France, England, and Russia soon determined on measures for their reduction. An expedition was fitted out at Toulon under general Maison, and before the end of November they were all reduced. Greece, after a struggle of eight years, was then emancipated from foreign control, and left to select her own course among independent nations.

**ANNUAL OBITUARY.**—Robert Musset, of the Mint, an industrious writer on subjects of currency. Sir Richard Strachan, 67, admiral of the blue, and a distinguished naval officer. Hon. Caroline Lamb, 42: this clever lady had become deranged; she married, in 1805, the hon. Wm. Lamb, now viscount Melbourne, and was the author of *Glenarvon*, &c. Henry Neele, 30, author of the "Romance of History," &c., committed suicide in a fit of derangement. John Scott, 54, the celebrated engraver of animals. At Rome, Sir William Drummond, an elegant scholar and profound



antiquary, author of the *Academical Questions* and of the "*Edipus Judaicus*," in which he considered some of the histories of the Bible allegories. John Joshua Proby, first earl of Carysfort, 77: his lordship was postmaster-general in 1806, and a poet and author of several pamphlets in favour of parliamentary reform. Henry White, 69, chiefly known as the proprietor of a late Sunday paper called the "*Independent Whig*." At Abbeville, Peter Moore, 76; he spent his early life in India, where he made an ample fortune; latterly he had been principally known as M. P. for Coventry, and by his connexion with the share-speculations of 1825. At Fulham, at a very advanced age, lieutenant. sir Alan Cameron, col. 79th Highlanders, a brave officer, who had served in the American war, in Holland, Egypt, and the Peninsula. Hon. Anne Seymour Damer, 80, celebrated as an amateur sculptress, and as the legatee of Horace, earl of Orford, at Strawberry-hill. At Toulouse, sir William Congreve, M. P., 56, inventor of the rocket that bears his name, and of the hydro-pneumatic lock, and of certain improvements in the manufacture of bank-note paper. Sir William was connected with the share-speculations of 1825, and who, on the ebbing of the tide, found it necessary, like Mr. Peter Moore and others, to seek an asylum on the continent. Rev. William Coxe, archdeacon of Wilts, 81, author of several books of travels, and biographies of Walpole, Marlborough, &c. Dugald Stewart, 75, late professor of moral philosophy at Edinburgh, and an eminent metaphysical writer. At Naples, the margravine of Brandenburg, and dowager baroness of Craven, 77; this clever but rather eccentric lady of a bygone age, married the old and rich margrave of Anspach six weeks after the death of lord Craven, in 1791; she had been long separated from his lordship, and was the author of several theatrical pieces, and of an autobiography. John Nicol, 88, bookseller to the late king, and member of the Unincreasable Club, and the Anons, of which Porson, James Perry, and Dr. Charles Burney were co-associates. At his seat near Paris, Jean Joseph Gall, 73, the celebrated phrenologist. At Stutgard, Charlotte Augusta Matilda, queen of Wirtemberg; she was eldest daughter of George III., and married in 1797. Richard Wharton, late M. P. for Durham, and author of *Roncesvalles* and "*Remarks on the Jacobinism of the Edinburgh Review*." Luke Hansard, 76, the able printer of the parliamentary papers since 1772, and of some of the chief works of Burke, Harris, and Porson. J. Curwen, esq., 72, an independent member of parliament and

experimental agriculturist. Mr. Curwen was particularly attentive to the principle by which animals and vegetables interchange their products, upon which he founded his "*Soiling System*," that is the reciprocation of food and manure, by confining the animals to the spot where they are fed.

A.D. 1829. Jan. 16. An attempt of about 600 Portuguese emigrant military to land at Terceira defeated, by the interference of captain Walpole, of the *Ranger*. The Miguelites having got possession of Madeira, Terceira was the only port of the dominions of Portugal that still held out for the constitutional sovereign, donna Maria. The expedition had been secretly fitted out at Plymouth, under the pretext that it was destined for Brazil, but earl Aberdeen, suspecting that the real destination was Terceira, captain Walpole was instructed not to suffer the emigrants to land. As the English ministers had determined to take no part in the internal affairs of Portugal, they contended that their system of neutrality would have been departed from, had they suffered a hostile armament to be fitted out, and proceed from a British port. The question, as one of international law and of public policy, was sharply discussed, and the course adopted by the foreign secretary was considered by some to evince a leaning towards the absolutists rather than the constitutional party.

27. French chamber of deputies opened by the king. The pacification of Greece; external peace, general prosperity amongst the people, and the liberty conceded to the press, formed the congratulatory topics of the royal speech.

Feb. 2. York minster set on fire by Jonathan Martin, who had concealed himself in the building for the purpose. He was found to be a lunatic, who had acted under the delusion that the venerable fabric was inimical to real religion. The roof of the choir, and its internal fittings, were destroyed. The damage was repaired by a public subscription, to the amount of 65,000*l.*, of the nobility and gentry of Yorkshire.

4. Mr. secretary Peel, in a letter to the vice-chancellor, resigned his seat for Oxford university, in consequence of the new policy he had, "in concert with all his colleagues in the government," determined on pursuing towards Ireland. He was again proposed a candidate, but sir Robert Inglis, after a contest of three days, during which 1364 voters were polled, was elected, by a majority of 146. As one of the most numerous convocations ever assembled in Oxford had last year voted, by a majority of three to one, against catholic conces-

sion, the result could not have been otherwise, without a sudden and extensive change of opinion.

5. Parliament opened by commission. The chief topics of the royal speech were—regret that diplomatic relations with Portugal were still suspended; continuance of the war between Turkey and Russia, and blockade by the latter of the Dardanelles; improvement of the revenue, especially that branch of it derived from articles of internal consumption; state of Ireland; existence of the catholic association inimical to the public peace; its suppression recommended, as preliminary to the removal of the disabilities of the catholics. The latter part of the speech excited great interest. In both houses addresses were unanimously carried.

10. Bill introduced by Mr. Peel, empowering the lord-lieutenant of Ireland to suppress any meeting that he may deem dangerous, and to delegate such authority to two selected magistrates. It was directed against the catholic association, and was one of three measures intended by ministers for the pacification of Ireland; the other two being the catholic relief bill, and the bill for the disfranchisement of the forty-shilling freeholders. The suppression-bill passed without opposition, and received the royal assent March 5th.

10. Died at Rome, aged 68, Pope Leo XII. He had occupied St. Peter's chair since 1823, and was succeeded by cardinal Castiglioni, who assumed the name of Pius VIII.

12. Catholic association dissolve themselves.

In consequence of a quarrel between the suite of the Russian ambassador at the court of Persia and the populace of Teheran, the whole of the embassy were murdered, with the exception of the secretary and three others.

16. Andrew Jackson declared duly elected president of the United States by congress.

20. Petitions from 60,000 proprietors of vineyards in France to the chambers, complaining of extreme distress, occasioned by the pressure of taxes, and restrictions on the exportation of wines, which, by checking consumption, rendered the prices ruinously low.

24. Cadiz made a free port.

25. The failures of Glasgow, since the last autumn, chiefly in the cotton trade, estimated to amount to 1,000,000*l*.

Mar. 4. Inaugural address of president Jackson, declaring his deference to the laws, and his determination to reduce the public debt, conceiving it to be injurious to public morals.

Petitions to the number of 150, sub-

scribed by great bodies of people, presented to the second chamber of the states-general of the Netherlands, praying for the institution of juries, independence of judges, responsibility of ministers, freedom of public instruction; and a motion to refer these petitions to the government was carried against the ministry by a majority of 56 to 43.

5. CATHOLIC RELIEF BILL.—Mr. Peel introduced this important measure in a speech of four hours' duration. Its general objects were to render catholics eligible to seats in both houses of parliament, to vote at the election of members, and generally to enjoy all civil franchises and offices, without religious test, further than an oath repudiating foreign allegiance, the right of deposing princes excommunicated by the pope, and engaging not to use their privileges to "weaken or disturb the Protestant establishment." To the offices of lord-chancellor, or lord-lieutenant of Ireland, or lord high commissioner of Scotland, they were to continue ineligible; nor were they to advise concerning, or take any part in the disposal of ecclesiastical patronage, nor to enjoy any new immunities in the universities or public schools. On the 18th, the second reading of the bill was carried, by a majority of 353 to 180; and on the 30th, the third reading, by 320 to 142. Ministers and their converted adherents were the chief speakers. The course of government being that which the whigs had long advocated, they were satisfied with approving its policy, and did not take a leading share in the discussion. The chief anti-catholic speakers were Mr. Bankes, sir R. Inglis, Mr. Sadler, and sir Charles Wetherell. On the 31st, the bill was read a first time in the lords, and the grand debate on the second reading ensued two days after. It lasted three days, one day longer than in the commons. The archbishop of Canterbury moved to throw out the bill, and was supported by the archbishops of York and Armagh, the bishops of London, Durham, and Salisbury, lords Winchelsea, Tenterden, Bexley, and Eldon. Wellington, Grey, Lansdowne, Plunkett, Goderich, and lord-chancellor Lyndhurst, were the chief defenders of the bill. On a division, the second reading was carried, by 217 against 112. On the 10th of April, the bill was read a third time, and on the 13th it received the royal assent. The unexpected consummation of this long-agitated question may be ascribed in great part to the energy and able conduct of the duke of Wellington. His grace had not only his own repugnance to catholic emancipation to surmount, but that of his chief colleagues, a great majority of the house of lords, and of the king himself. Without



the previous assent of the latter, the undertaking was entirely hopeless. During the summer and autumn, the efforts of the duke to overcome the royal scruples had been incessant, and it was only a few days before parliament met that the consent of the king had been obtained. (*Ann. Reg.*, lxxi. 97.) This accounts for the secrecy with which the relief bill was brought forward, and which was really favourable to its success; for the suddenness with which it was introduced and carried left little time for anti-catholic agitation.

**FORTY-SHILLING FREEHOLDERS.**—The bill for disfranchising this description of Irish freeholders, and raising the qualification to 10*l.*, went on *pari passu* with the relief bill, but encountered far less opposition. Mr. Brougham said, he consented to it as “the price—almost the extravagant price of the other;” and sir James Mackintosh remarked, that it was one of those “tough morsels” which he had scarcely been able to swallow. It was opposed by Mr. Huskisson, and lords Palmerston and Duncannon, as not requisite, or if so, not calculated to accomplish its purpose. Only seventeen members, however, voted against it. Mr. O’Connell, who had publicly bound himself to reject even emancipation if coupled with disfranchisement, became silent, and acquiescent in the destruction of the “*forties*.”

**CATHOLIC STATISTICS.**—The number of catholics in Britain, at the time of passing the relief bill, was estimated, by themselves, at nearly one million, scattered in various proportions through England, Scotland, and Wales. The catholic population of London was estimated at 200,000. The chief catholic counties in England are Lancashire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Worcestershire, Cheshire, Northumberland, Durham, Norfolk, Suffolk, and Kent. In Ireland, the catholic population was estimated at five millions and a half, and the protestant population, including all sectarians, at one million and three quarters. By the removal of the disabilities, eight English catholic peers will be enabled to take their seats, by right, in the house of lords. The catholic baronets in England are sixteen in number. In Ireland there are eight catholic peers; in Scotland two, and one baronet, sir James Gordon. The restrictive code of laws against catholics had subsisted 271 years, from the passing of the acts of supremacy and uniformity, by 1 Eliz. c. 1 and c. 2, in 1558. But the oath of supremacy was not tendered to members of the upper house, and several peers continued catholics. It was not till the year 1677, that by 30 Car. II. stat. 2, both catholic peers and commoners were disabled from sitting in the English parliament.

*Mar. 8.* A decree passed the senate of Mexico for the expulsion of the Spaniards.

21. Duel between the duke of Wellington and the earl of Winchelsea in Battersea-fields. The earl having received the duke’s fire, discharged his own pistol into the air; his second then delivered a written acknowledgment, expressive of the earl’s regret for having imputed disgraceful motives to the conduct of the duke, in his pro-catholic exertions.

22. **SETTLEMENT OF GREECE.**—The ministers of England, France, and Russia, agreed to the settlement of the Greek state. Its continental boundary line to be drawn from the gulf of Volo to the gulf of Arta. All countries south of this line to be included in the Greek state to which the islands of Eubœa and the Cyclades were to belong. The government to approach as nearly as possible to a monarchical form, and to be hereditary in the family of a christian prince, to be chosen for the first time by the three powers, in concert with the Porte. He is not to be a member of any of the reigning families of the three powers. There were also stipulations for the maintenance of the sovereignty of Turkey, and the payment of a tribute, but these were subsequently abandoned, and the nationality of Greece secured. The settlement was made by the allies, without concert with the Porte, or the president and congress at Argos.

*April 1.* Accident at Hyde, near Manchester. A meeting of trade unionists being assembled in a room at a public-house, the flooring suddenly gave way, and 250 fell with such force as to go through the travellers’-room beneath into the cellar: thirty were killed, and many others greatly wounded.

13. **SILK TRADE.**—A debate began in the house of commons, that lasted two days, on the state of the silk-trade. In 1824 there were 17,000 looms employed in Spitalfields, while at present there were only 9000. Wages averaged at the former period 17*s.*, at present only 9*s.* a-week. By the manufacturers this depression was ascribed to the relaxation of the prohibitory system, and the admission into the home-market of foreign silks. On the other hand, ministers and the advocates of free-trade ascribed the depression to the increase of production, and the rivalry of the provincial towns of Congleton, Macclesfield, and Manchester. That the general trade had increased, was shown by the vast increase in the quantity of raw-silk imported, and in the number of spindles employed in the silk-manufacture. Ministers were firm in their hostility to the prohibitory system, and would not listen to any suggestion for relief other than a reduction in the duties on the importation of

raw-silk, by which the demand for the manufactured article might be augmented. During the discussion of a bill founded on this suggestion, Spitalfields was the scene of incessant riot, and property to a large amount was destroyed.

28. Duke of Norfolk and lords Dormer and Clifford took the oath and their seats in the house of lords, being the first catholic peers under the relief act. Three days after three other catholic peers, lords Stafford, Petre, and Stourton, took their seats.

29. Disturbance among the weavers of Rochdale and Macclesfield, occasioned by the reduction of wages and consequent distress: they formed processions, visited the factories, and much machinery was destroyed.

*May 3.* Riots at Manchester; a factory burnt; the bakers' and other provision-shops attacked, and a great many of them plundered.

4. Earl of Surrey elected M. P. for Horsham, being the first catholic member returned to the house of commons under the relief act.

8. Chancellor of the exchequer, in bringing forward the budget, congratulated the house on the increasing prosperity of the country, as evinced in the improvement of the excise and customs: he anticipated, however, a falling off in the following year, owing to the deficient harvest, and other causes.

8. Died, in his 72d year, **CHARLES ABBOT**, first lord Colchester, and speaker of the house of commons from 1802 to 1817. Mr. Abbott originated a great many improvements in parliamentary proceedings; such as laying regularly before the house a list of expiring laws; the communication to magistrates of copies of all new statutes; the establishment of the private bill office; the improvement of the daily return of the votes and proceedings of the commons; and his financial reports in 1799, became the model of all succeeding reports of committees. He was the author of the first act for taking a census of the population of England and Wales, and of the commission for inquiring into the national records. The same spirit of amendment he carried into the house of lords. To him they owe the daily publication of their proceedings, and the establishment of a library, upon the plan of that of the house of commons.

9. Deputations from Liverpool, Manchester, Glasgow, Bristol, and Birmingham, wait on ministers to represent the advantages of a free trade to India and China.

15. Mr. O'Connell, who had been elected member for Clare before the passing of the relief act, claimed to take his seat under it. The legality of his election was admitted,

but his right to the benefit of a posterior law was not allowed. A debate next arose whether he should be heard, in defence of his claim, at the table or at the bar. There were precedents for both modes. It was at length agreed that he should be heard at the bar; and on the 18th he delivered an elaborate argument, but the house divided against him, 190 to 116, and a writ for a new election issued.

16. At a meeting of the subscribers to the erection of king's college, lord Bexley stated that government had given the ground originally intended for the east wing of Somerset-house, for the site of the institution, free of expense, for 1000 years, on condition that the new erection corresponded with the rest of the edifice.

23. Captain Ross departed from Woolwich, in a steam-vessel, to make one more attempt for the discovery of the north-west passage.

27. Oxford-street bazaar burnt; damage estimated at 50,000*l*.

*June 3.* Marquis of Blandford moved resolutions in the house of commons, declaratory of the necessity of parliamentary reform. It was supported by some of the old reformers, though on very different grounds, from that dislike of free-trade and apprehension of catholic influence which influenced the mover. Resolutions rejected by 401 to 118.

10. The following official changes had now been completed:—Chief-justice Best elevated to the peerage by the title of lord Wynford; he was succeeded in the common pleas by sir Nicholas Tindal, the solicitor-general. Mr. Sugden became the new solicitor-general. Sir James Scarlett, who held the same office under Mr. Canning, became attorney-general, in place of sir Charles Wetherell, dismissed for his anti-catholic opposition to the ministry. The earl of Rosslyn sworn in keeper of the privy seal.

**METROPOLIS POLICE.**—Mr. secretary Peel's bill on this subject was read on the 10th a third time, and became law. It effected a great improvement in the police of the metropolis by appointing two magistrates or commissioners, exempt from sessions' business, and whose duties were limited to the preservation of the peace, and the detection and committal of offenders. They are exempt from any qualification by estate, and have the entire control of the nightly watch and police within the limits of the metropolitan police district, which district may be extended to any parish (city of London excepted) within twelve miles of Charing-cross. The expense of the new force to be defrayed by a rate, levied on householders. In consequence, the old inefficient parochial watch, with their lanterns, watch-



boxes, and hour-calls, speedily began to disappear from the London streets.

20. The English and French ambassadors arrived at Constantinople, and diplomatic relations, which had been interrupted since the battle of Navarino, resumed.

24. Parliament prorogued by commission.

July 10. Resolutions of the society of the inner temple. It was deemed expedient to exclude persons from admission to the bar whose previous education or habits were not such as to afford testimony of the integrity and learning essential to the dignity of a liberal profession; and for these purposes previous examination by a barrister, in classical attainments, and the general subjects of a liberal education, was to be requisite to admission.

14. A man named Stewart and his wife convicted at Glasgow of the murder of Robert Lamont, by administering laudanum in his drink, on board a steam-packet, and afterwards robbing him: they were subsequently executed, and it was ascertained that they had been repeatedly guilty of similar crimes.

26. Russian army, commanded by marshal Diebitsch, completed the passage of the Balkan mountains.

28. Mr. Gurney's steam-carriage, intended to go on the common roads, attacked by the mob at Melksham: it was on an experimental trip to Bath.

30. Railway-tunnel under Liverpool, a mile and a quarter in length, opened to the public.

Mr. O'Connell re-elected for Clare, without opposition. His expenses were defrayed by a grant of 5000*l.* out of the catholic rent, though the grant was opposed by Mr. Eneas Macdonnell, who had himself been refused a grant in consideration of his services in the catholic cause. Mr. O'Connell delivered some stirring addresses to the electors, informing them they had achieved the glory of "converting Peel and conquering Wellington;" and that their ultimate object ought now to be a repeal of the union.

Aug. 1. Supreme court of Bavaria, after a protracted trial of four years, sentenced to perpetual imprisonment Riembauer, a catholic priest, who had long pursued a course of crime and hypocrisy. Riembauer had been held up as the model of curates; attentive to his duties, eloquent, insinuating, and graceful in person and manners. With these advantages he had succeeded in debauching many women, and then assassinated them and the offspring of his illicit amours. After conviction he admitted his mind had been corrupted by the pernicious maxim of the jesuits,—that the "end sanctifies the means;" and that it is

"allowable to kill another, if there is no other means of saving one's honour or good renown."

DISTRESS AMONG WEAVERS.—In the spring and summer the depression in every branch of trade had greatly reduced the rate of wages. Artisans ascribed this reduction to the avarice of employers, and resorted to the usual expedients of combination and the destruction of property. The example began among the silk-weavers of Spitalfields. They entered the workshops, and cut and mutilated the materials belonging to refractory masters. The webs in thirty or forty looms were sometimes thus destroyed in a single night. The weavers with whom the property was intrusted were suspected of being accessory to its destruction. In the domestic manufacture the masters could have neither protection nor redress against this revengeful proceeding. They were obliged, in self-defence, to comply with the demands of the workmen, who had property at their mercy to the amount of 150,000*l.* The same system was acted on at Macclesfield, Coventry, Nuneaton, and Bedworth. In these towns the power-loom had been introduced, which enabled one man to do the labour of four. The reign of terror extended into Yorkshire, and at Barnsley a list of prices was forced on the masters. The miserable condition of the weavers was not denied. At Huddersfield it was ascertained that there were 13,000 persons, occupied in the fancy-trade, whose average earnings did not exceed 2½*d.* per day, out of which they had to find wear and tear for looms, &c.

8. An unpopular change in the French ministry. Polignac, Courvoisier, Bourmont, Rigny, Labourdonnaye, Montbel, and Crousol, were the new ministers. They were the representatives of the emigrants and the priests, favourable to irresponsible power in politics, and spiritual domination.

20. Adrianople entered by the Russians.

GEORGE IV.—The king went to Snowhill, and laid the foundation-stone of an equestrian statue to the memory of his father. He wore a blue coat, with velvet collar, white drill trousers, and light Wellington boots; a round beaver hat, without binding, and banded with a broad ribbon. The hat was worn with a *dégagee* air, and his majesty appeared, as was his wont on such occasions, in high spirits. It was almost the last appearance of the king in public.

Sept. 1. The London public much interested in the performances of M. Chabert, the fire-king. They were of the same kind as those before noticed in Paris (p. 838), with the addition of swallowing large doses of phosphorus and prussic acid.

14. PEACE BETWEEN TURKEY AND RUSSIA.—The Russians, under count Diebitsch

had advanced within a few easy marches of Constantinople. Considering their successes in the war, the terms imposed on the Porte by the victors were not, upon the face of them, very onerous. Russia obtained hardly any accession of territory by the treaty of Adrianople. The principalities of Moldavia, Wallachia, Bulgaria, and Rumelia, were to be restored. The Turks were to pay the Russians, by ten annual instalments, between five and six millions sterling, to compensate them for the expenses of the war, and the losses of their merchants. Until the last instalment be paid, the principalities not to be evacuated. The free passage of the Dardanelles and the canal of Constantinople; liberty of commerce throughout the whole extent of the Turkish empire, and the exemption of her vessels from the visits of the Ottoman authorities, were guaranteed to Russia. Russian subjects, even in Turkey, are to live under the exclusive jurisdiction and police of the ministers and consuls of Russia. This exemption from the Turkish tribunals, the heavy pecuniary mulct, and ten years' military occupation of part of the Turkish territory, formed the hardest conditions of the treaty.

23. The new post-office opened.

Oct. 5. New regulations respecting the port of London published. The day and night-duty of harbour-masters has been strictly defined. A great many new directions as to the mooring, unmooring, and removing of vessels.

6. Trial of speed between differently-constructed locomotive carriages, on the Liverpool and Manchester railway. Two of them propelled at the rate of upwards of thirty miles an-hour. A prize of 500*l.* awarded by the directors to Mr. Stephenson.

16. The *Dolphin* convict-hulk, with 500 convicts on board, suddenly heeled on one side and sunk; it arose from the vessel not rising with the tide, and her bottom, by suction, adhering to the mud that had accumulated during the late high tides of the Medway. Only three lives were lost.

Nov. 1. The assets of the Equitable Assurance Company, inclusive of cash in hand, and money lent on mortgage, are valued at 10,410,540*l.* There are 8867 policies existing, upon which there will be due, at the deaths of the assurers, 14,849,972*l.* Against these claims, besides the assets, are the annual premiums, amounting to 410,665*l.* The surplus of assets above all claims is estimated at about five millions.

The marquis of Stafford, who in 1820 began to regulate the rents of his English estates according to the average price of wheat, still adheres to his system. The deduction received by his tenants was

highest in 1822, namely, 46 per cent.; and lowest in 1825, 16 per cent. The rents of his Scotch estates his lordship regulates by the average price of wool, widders, and ewes: his tenants in the north received, in 1823, 40 per cent., and in 1821, 18 per cent.; which were the highest and lowest during the last eight years.

A vein of pure oil was lately struck, in boring for salt water, in Cumberland county, Kentucky. The oil welled out at intervals of from two to five minutes, pouring out at each flow barrels of oil, of a strong, penetrating, disagreeable odour, perceptible at the distance of six miles.

20. New Fleet-market opened. The shops, in general, are let at 15*s.* a-week, or with a parlour, 25*s.* The street, formerly called Fleet-market, is to be called Farringdon-street.

Dec. 8. On opening the American congress, president Jackson announced that the tariff had not answered the expectations of its supporters.

29. The London booksellers have a meeting at the Chapter coffee-house, to consider of the best means of preventing the practice of selling books below the publishers' price, and at less than 25 per cent. profit allowed to the trade. A resolution, signed by 650 persons, is agreed to, that no copyright-work shall be sold at more than ten per cent. under the publishers' price, and that for ready money only, except in a case where the publisher himself had lowered the price at a trade-sale.

30. Welland canal, connecting the lakes Erie and Ontario, opened.

SUBSCRIPTION CLUBS.—The following are the names of the subscription-clubs that have been established in London, and the number of subscribers:—United Service, 1500; Junior United Service, 1500; Royal Naval, 500; Athenæum, 1000; Union, 1000; University, 1000; Verulam, 1000; Oriental, 1000; Alfred's, 500; Travellers', 500; Wyndham's, 500; Literary Union, 500; Arthur's, 800; Brookes's, 500; Boodle's, 500; Randell's, 500; White's, 500; Graham's, 500; Cocoa-Tree, 500; Portland, 500; Guards', 400; Albion, 400; Colonial, 400; St. James's, 400.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—At Dresden, Fred. Von Schlegel, 57, German writer, and great admirer of the *Romantic*, in contradistinction to the classical school, which his brother favoured: Schlegel was the son of a protestant clergyman, and it is likely that his overwrought impressions of the glories of the middle ages may have influenced his secession from the paternal faith to become a catholic. Sir William Curtis, 77, father of the London corporation, and late M.P. for the city. David Erskine, eleventh earl of Buchan, 86, founder of the Society of Antiquaries of



Scotland. William Stevenson, 57, keeper of the records in the Tower, and author of a "History of Navigation," &c. Elizabeth countess of Derby, 66, formerly Miss Farnen, the actress. George lord Harris, 82, general in the army, and conqueror of Seringapatam, in 1799, when Tippoo Sultan was killed. Edward, second lord Thurlow, 47: his lordship married Miss Bolton, the actress, and was author of several poems and translations. At Paddington, Thomas Fitzgerald, 70, formerly of the victualling-office, and a poet known to his contemporaries. John Reeves, 77, late chief-justice of Newfoundland, and originator, in 1792, of the association against republicans: in 1800 Mr. Reeves was appointed king's printer, in conjunction with Messrs. Eyre and Strahan; he was a copious writer on legal and political subjects. At Aberdeen, Robert Hamilton, 86, forty years a professor in the Marischal-college, and author of an "Inquiry into the National Debt:" the professor was the first to demonstrate the fallacy of the sinking-fund, and the futility of seeking to liquidate public debts by borrowed money. At his seat, in Perth-

shire, general sir David Baird, a meritorious officer, who had seen much service in the East Indies, and lost an arm at the battle of Corunna. James Hamilton, 60, author of the system of teaching languages that bears his name. General Thomas Garth, 85; he served in Germany, in 1762, under prince Ferdinand: the general is said to have had, at an advanced age, a natural son, who bears his name, by an illustrious lady. Eugenius Roche, 43, editor of *The Courier*. W. M. Willett, 63, editor of *The Statesman*. By a fall from a post-chaise, William Wadd, 55, surgeon-extraordinary to the king, and author of several medical and amusing publications. At Paris, count de Barras, 74, member of the directory which Napoleon overthrew in 1799. At Milan, Stephen Dumont, 79, distinguished writer on legislation, and translator of Bentham's writings; a learned and amiable native of Geneva, possessed of great and polished conversational powers, and the intimate friend of the late sir Samuel Romilly and Mr. Brougham. Benjamin Flower, 74, popular political writer. John Mawe, 74, celebrated mineralogist and traveller.

A.D. 1830. *Jan.* SOVEREIGNS IN EUROPE.—The following are the reigning contemporaries of George IV., arranged according to the order of their accession, and their age at the time of accession:—

	<i>Date of Accession.</i>	<i>Age at Accession.</i>
Frederic, duke of Saxe Altenbourg . . . . .	Sept. 22, 1780	17
Francis, grand duke of Mecklenbourg Schwerin . . . . .	April 24, 1785	28
George William, prince of Lippe Schaumbourg . . . . .	Feb. 13, 1787	2
Louis, grand duke of Hesse Darmstadt . . . . .	April 6, 1790	36
Francis, emperor of Austria . . . . .	March 2, 1792	24
Gunter, prince of Scharzbouurg-Sonderhausen . . . . .	Oct. 14, 1793	33
Alexis, duke of Anhalt-Bernbourg . . . . .	April 9, 1796	28
Frederic William III., king of Prussia . . . . .	Nov. 16, 1797	27
Leopold, prince of Lippe-Detmold . . . . .	April 4, 1802	5
Bernard, duke of Saxe-Meiningen . . . . .	Dec. 24, 1803	3
John Joseph, prince of Lichtenstein . . . . .	Mar. 24, 1805	44
Ernest, duke of Saxe-Cobourg-Gotha . . . . .	Dec. 9, 1806	22
Frederick VI., king of Denmark . . . . .	Mar. 13, 1808	40
Ferdinand VII., king of Spain . . . . .	Mar. 19, 1808	23
Mahmoud II., sultan of Turkey . . . . .	July 28, 1808	24
Frederic, prince of Hohenzollern-Heckingen . . . . .	Nov. 2, 1810	34
George, prince of Waldeck . . . . .	Sept. 9, 1813	23
William I., king of the Netherlands . . . . .	Dec. 3, 1813	41
Maria Louisa, duchess of Parma . . . . .	May 30, 1814	22
Francis IV., duke of Modena . . . . .	June 8, 1815	35
William, duke of Brunswick . . . . .	June 16, 1815	30
William, duke of Nassau . . . . .	Jan. 9, 1816	23
William, king of Wurtemberg . . . . .	Oct. 30, 1816	35
George, grand duke of Mecklenbourg-Strelitz . . . . .	Nov. 6, 1816	37
Henry, prince of Reus-Greiz . . . . .	Jan. 29, 1817	26
Leopold, duke of Anhalt-Dessau . . . . .	Aug. 9, 1817	22
Louis, grand duke of Baden . . . . .	Feb. 5, 1818	54
Charles XIV., king of Sweden . . . . .	Dec. 8, 1818	55
Ferdinand, duke of Anhalt-Koethen . . . . .	Dec. 16, 1818	48
William II., elector of Hesse-Cassel . . . . .	Feb. 27, 1821	43
Felix, king of Sardinia . . . . .	April 19, 1821	56
Henry, prince of Reuss and Ebersdorf . . . . .	July 10, 1822	25

	Date of Accession.	Age at Accession.
Charles Louis, duke of Lucca . . . . .	Mar. 13, 1824	25
Leopold II., grand duke of Tuscany . . . . .	June 17, 1824	26
Charles X., king of France . . . . .	Sept. 16, 1824	67
Francis I., king of the Two Sicilies . . . . .	Jan. 4, 1825	46
Louis, king of Bavaria . . . . .	Oct. 13, 1825	39
Nicholas I., emperor of Russia . . . . .	Dec. 1, 1825	29
Maria II., queen of Portugal . . . . .	May 2, 1826	6
Anthony, king of Saxony . . . . .	May 5, 1827	72
Charles Frederic, grand duke of Saxe-Weimar . . . . .	June 14, 1828	45
Pope Pius VIII. . . . .	May 31, 1829	67
Louis, Landgrave of Hesse-Hombourg . . . . .	April 2, 1829	59
Augustus, grand duke of Oldenbourg . . . . .	May 21, 1829	46

#### REVENUE, DEBT, POPULATION, &c.—

The following proportions show the relative amount of taxation, debt, military and naval power, and the diffusion of the elective franchise, in different states, at the commencement of the present year:—

#### Every inhabitant pays in TAXES, in—

	£.	s.	d.
Great Britain . . . . .	2	12	0
France . . . . .	1	4	1
Netherlands . . . . .	1	0	9
Prussia . . . . .	0	13	7
United States of America . . . . .	0	9	7
Austria . . . . .	0	8	1½
Russia . . . . .	0	4	9½

#### Proportion of DEBT to Population:—

	£.	s.	d.
Great Britain . . . . .	34	15	2½
Netherlands . . . . .	25	12	0
France . . . . .	5	16	0
Austria . . . . .	1	16	0
United States . . . . .	1	7	2½
Prussia . . . . .	1	3	2½
Russia . . . . .	0	16	9½

#### Proportion of ARMY to Population:—

Russia, one soldier to	57
Prussia . . . . .	80
Austria . . . . .	118
France . . . . .	138
Netherlands . . . . .	142
Great Britain . . . . .	229
United States . . . . .	1977

Inhabitants.

#### Vessels of the Line and Frigates:—

Great Britain, one to	82,979
Sweden and Norway . . . . .	154,640
Netherlands . . . . .	170,556
France . . . . .	290,909
United States . . . . .	316,000
Russia . . . . .	686,250
Austria . . . . .	2,909,091

Inhabitants.

#### Proportion of REPRESENTATION to Population:—

Norway 75 deputies, or 1 to 14,000	
Britain and Ireland, 658 do., or 1 to . . . . .	39,970
Netherlands, 110 do., or 1 to 55,845	
United States, 187 do., or 1 to . . . . .	60,129
France, 430 do., or 1 to . . . . .	74,418

Inhabitants.

FRANCE AND ENGLAND.—M. Charles Dupin has published some interesting comparative statements of the relative industrial force in France and England. He has calculated the amount of animate and inanimate, or the power of men and animals, and the mechanical power in the two kingdoms; and has reduced both to a common measure, expressed in an equivalent number of adult labourers or operatives. First of the *agricultural force* of the two kingdoms. The 31,800,000 inhabitants, which now constitute the population of France, are equivalent to a power of 12,609,057 individuals of the male sex at the age of full vigour. In France about two-thirds of the population are employed in agriculture, and one-third in manufactures and commerce. On the contrary, in Britain, of the 15,000,000 of her inhabitants, about one-third only are employed in agriculture, and two-thirds in manufactures and commerce. The following exhibits the relative amount of human and animal power devoted to agriculture in France and Britain, expressed in an equivalent number of effective labourers:—

	France.	Britain.
Human force . . . . .	8,406,038	2,132,446
Horses . . . . .	11,200,000	8,750,000
Oxen and Cows . . . . .	17,432,000	13,750,000
Asses . . . . .	240,000	
Total power . . . . .	37,278,038	24,632,446

This exhibits a remarkable difference in the use made of animal power by the two nations. The agriculturists of England and Scotland, by the use of domestic animals, having created a power twelve times greater than their own personal force, while the additional force obtained through similar means by the French agriculturists does not amount to five times their own. In commerce and manufactures the contrast between the two countries is greater, though not so unexpected, as in rural industry. The following exhibits the *commercial and manufacturing power* of France compared with that of Britain,



expressed, as before, in equivalent men-power:—

	<i>France.</i>	<i>Britain.</i>
Animate force .	6,303,019	7,275,497
Mills and hydraulic engines	1,500,000	1,200,000
Windmills . . .	253,333	240,000
Wind and navigation . . . .	3,000,000	12,000,000
Steam-engines .	480,000	6,400,000

Total force 11,536,352 27,115,497

Thus the total of the inanimate force applied to the mechanical arts of all descriptions in France scarcely exceeds the fourth of the same force applied to the same purposes in Britain; and the whole animate and inanimate power of Britain, applied to manufactures and commerce, is nearly treble the amount of that so applied in France. The comparison of the agricultural, commercial, and manufacturing powers of the two kingdoms, with their respective populations, also affords data for many curious inferences illustrative of the relative industrial condition of Britain and France.

Jan. 14. Bavaria reduced the interest of her national debt from 5 to 4 per cent.

15. A deputation from the city of London, in a conference with the duke of Wellington, complains of the high price of coals and the combination among the coal-owners of the Tyne.

18. A severe frost; the thermometer on Hampstead-heath 22 degrees below the freezing point. Similar weather experienced in the south of Europe.

24. Venice declared a free port.

25. DEATH OF MR. TIERNEY. — This eminent parliamentary debater was in his 74th year, and died of an enlargement of the heart, a disease that had been some years in progress, and which he bore with fortitude. He was bred to the law, and, for a short time, went the western circuit, but, marrying a lady of property, he left a profession for which he was well qualified to indulge in the less profitable but more ambitious pursuits of statesmanship. He entered the house of commons in 1796, about the time the whigs, in a pettish fit, withdrew from it, under an impression that their efforts to save the country would be unavailing and hopeless; retaining, however, contrary to the example of Grattan and the other contemporary seceders from the Irish parliament, their seats the while. The secession was a piece of effeminacy that would now be laughed at, and certainly not tolerated in any class of public servants intrusted with representative duties. During their absence, Mr. Tierney, who had not been regularly incorporated into the opposition, remained

behind as a kind of rear-guard to watch the enemy and report his movements. He was treasurer of the navy under Mr. Addington, but on the overthrow of that gentleman's ministry, by a coalition, he rejoined his old friends, to whom he ever after faithfully adhered, and of whom he was for many years the leader. He was a shrewd, plain, argumentative, and humorous speaker, without any pretension to oratory or refinement of thought. His analysis of the annual budget was usually his most masterly exhibition. At an early period of life he fought a duel with Mr. Pitt. He had a deep sense of religion, and some qualities have been ascribed to him (*Edinburgh Review*, cxxxvii. 249) that seem almost incompatible with his temperament and strength of intellect. He was timid in council, disposed to dwell on the gloomy side of things, and on all possible contingencies. He was not in truth deeply versed in general principles, not even in those of political economy, and, on one occasion, committed the error of ascribing public distress to large farms and the over-application of capital to land. Mr. Tierney was the author of some clever pamphlets; he also drew up the admirable petition of the Society of the Friends of the People, showing the defects of the representative system, and which, in 1793 (see p. 582), was presented to parliament.

Feb. 4. Mr. Alexander, editor of the *Morning Journal*, sentenced to sundry fines and imprisonment for libels on the duke of Wellington and his ministry. The prosecutions had been instituted by the attorney-general, sir James Scarlett, and were generally disapproved.

POSITION OF THE MINISTRY. — Parliament met on the 4th inst. and found the government in a difficult position. By extraordinary energy it had carried catholic emancipation; but in so doing had lost the support of a powerful section of adherents, who, holding themselves to have been betrayed, had been converted into determined opponents. As a set-off to this defection, ministers had gained the support of the whigs, who were willing to lend them such assistance as would save them from seeking a reconciliation with the offended tories; but this assistance was wavering and not wholly disinterested. They naturally and reasonably sought coalition *in office* as well as in parliament. They had, no desire, therefore, to render the ministry independent; their policy was to administer sustenance enough to keep it alive but not to establish it in the robustness of perfect health. The duke of Wellington, on the other hand, sought their aid in the legislature, not their co-operation in power. He would still have

preferred a reconciliation with his old friends, and, to keep the way open for them, stood aloof from an official union with the whigs. The former, however, manifested not the slightest disposition towards peace and forgiveness. The party of which Mr. Canning had been leader, and which, after his death, acknowledged the supremacy of Mr. Huskisson, would have brought both influence and talent; but the expulsion of Huskisson from the cabinet had been too ignominious to leave any hope of his return unless the duke would make submissions which neither his situation nor his unbending character would allow. In the house of commons, therefore, the ministry was weak, the ablest members being mostly lukewarm or hostile. With the exception of Mr. Secretary Peel, who tried to fill the place of leader, there was no one fitted efficiently to fight their battles in debate—no one that held a high place in public opinion for intelligence and oratory. More auxiliaries or fewer enemies, therefore, became indispensable. The desertion of the whigs, and their coalition with his tory opponents, would have at once terminated the duke's ministry. To attach the former to his standard became the obvious policy of the prime minister. The marquis of Cleveland, a great borough-proprietor, under whose patronage Mr. Brougham had long sat in parliament, was the first to lend his aid to the government, and his son, lord Darlington, undertook to move the address (*Ann. Register*, lxxii. 3). Another whig lord, the duke of Devonshire, was conciliated by the appointment of Mr. Abercrombie, his lordship's land-agent, and late of the chancery bar, to be chief baron of the exchequer in Ireland. This could only be considered an instalment, not the full purchase-money, of the entire services of the opposition. Parliament was opened by commission. The royal speech dwelt on our amicable relations with foreign powers, increased amount of exports, deficiency in the revenue of the previous year and intended retrenchments, proposed improvements in the administration of the law, *partial distress* among the agricultural and manufacturing classes owing to unfavourable seasons and other causes not under legislative control. An amendment to the address was moved in the upper and lower house on the ground that the distress was *universal*, not *partial*; in the lords it was negatived by 71 to 9; in the commons by 158 to 105.

9. Public meeting at Sydney, New South Wales, to petition parliament for a legislative assembly and trial by jury.

16. English Opera House and five houses adjoining destroyed by fire. Mr. Arnold, the proprietor, was not insured.

Mar. 2. French chamber of deputies opened by Charles X. The opposition to the ministry of prince Polignac was kept up, both in the chambers and by the liberal journals, with unabated bitterness. The king's speech was threatening, and implied a fixed determination on his part to support the ultra-royalist administration he had formed. In their address, in answer, the deputies openly declared that the government had not their confidence, and that "an unjust distrust of the sentiments and reason of France is now the fundamental idea of the administration." The public discontents were great; in Brittany an association had been formed for refusing payment of taxes, if the charter should be violated; the editors of the *Globe*, the *National*, and other popular journals, were prosecuted for libels and sentenced to fines and imprisonment.

15. In bringing forward the BUDGET, the chancellor of the exchequer announced the total remission of the excise-duties on beer, cider, and leather. The deficiency of revenue occasioned thereby, amounting to five millions, he proposed to meet by assimilating the Irish stamp-duty to that of England, and increasing the duties on spirits. The economical reductions in different departments of government amounted to 1,300,000*l*. Efforts were made to improve the bill for the disfranchisement of East Retford, and the extension of the franchise to the adjoining hundred. Mr. Tennyson moved to transfer the right of returning members to Birmingham. Mr. Hobhouse, on the third reading of the bill, on the 15th, proposed its rejection altogether, and, on failing that, Mr. O'Connell moved that the poll in the borough and hundred should be taken *by ballot*. This was a novel principle in parliamentary election, and rejected by 179 to 21.

19. Session of the Swedish diet closed; the king congratulated the assembly in his speech on the advancing prosperity of the kingdom, stating that the population had increased one-sixth within twenty years, the national debt was nearly extinguished, and the taxes considerably reduced.

19. French chamber of deputies prorogued preparatory to their dissolution and a new election.

25. The king of Spain abolishes the Salic law, which excluded females from succession to the throne.

Apr. 15. First bulletin issued announcing the illness of George IV. On the 12th the king rode in Windsor-park for the last time, and passed some time in the menagerie, a place in which he took great delight. While there he complained of pain and faintness, and inquired of the



keeper if he had any brandy in the house. The man, an old servant of the duke of York, said he had something which he thought his majesty would like better than brandy. "What is it?" said the king. "Cherry gin," was the reply; "it was made by my old woman, sire." His majesty seemed much pleased by this mark of attention, and expressed a wish to taste the "old girl's cordial." On its being handed to him he appeared to relish it exceedingly, and finished the remainder of the bottle.

May 3. Died, in his 80th year, sir ROBERT PEEL, father of the secretary of state for the home department. He was among the first and most successful of the natives of Lancashire who plunged into the golden flood that flowed into the country on the sudden expansion of the cotton-trade. In 1773 he established, in conjunction with Mr. Yates, an extensive manufactory at Bury, which rose into a state of unequalled prosperity. In 1803 they employed 15,000 persons, and paid 40,000*l.* annually to the excise as duty on printed goods. Mr. Peel married, in 1787, the daughter of his partner, then in her seventeenth year, by whom he had six sons and five daughters. About this period he made some large purchases of landed property in the counties of Lancaster, Stafford, and Warwick, and in 1790 was returned member for Tamworth, previously to which he had published a pamphlet with the paradoxical title of "The National Debt productive of National Prosperity." He was a strenuous supporter of Mr. Pitt, and, in the eventful emergencies of 1798, when government made an urgent appeal to the loyalty of the community, the firm of Peel and Yates subscribed 10,000*l.* for the support of the war. Mr. Peel, in 1801, was created a baronet. In his political capacity he seems to have committed the common error of being carried away by present and the local appearances in his own neighbourhood rather than a comprehensive estimate of national and final results. He died possessed of immense riches, the fruits of well-timed enterprise, and not parsimoniously heaped up, but accompanied with much active benevolence and a generous munificence.

14. Sir James Graham moved in the house of commons for a return of the salaries and emoluments of the members of the PRIVY COUNCIL. He said the total number of privy councillors was 169, of whom 113 received public money to the amount of 650,164*l.* There were 47 peers and 21 commoners who were privy councillors; the former received 378,346*l.*, the latter 90,849*l.* per annum. The chancellor of the exchequer moved an amendment for a return of sala-

ries and emoluments above 250*l.* held by *all* persons in the civil departments of the united kingdom. Amendment carried. Sir James remarked that he "had called for a glass of wine, and Mr. Goulburn had served him with a glass of wine diluted with a bottle of water."

21. Prince Leopold declined the sovereignty of Greece, offered to him by the allied powers.

24. Message from the king to parliament, stating his inability to affix the sign-manual to public instruments. A commission was appointed, and an act passed and received the royal assent on the 29th to legalize the use of a stamp. The bulletins issued had been concocted in such vague, unmeaning language, that this was the first public indication of the dangerous and hopeless condition of his majesty.

The French newspapers contained numerous and distressing accounts of fires in Normandy and Brittany, supposed to be occasioned by incendiaries.

28. Motions by lord John Russell and Mr. O'Connell for parliamentary reform.

June 3. Mr. Sadler moved for the introduction of poor-laws into Ireland: negatived without a division.

7. A musical performance, of a novel description, took place at the Egyptian-hall. The performer was Michael Boai, and his instrument his *chin*, played upon by the knuckles of his two fists. The tones he produced were something similar to the castanets, and the rapidity and precision of his execution extraordinary.

12. Will of the late sir Robert Peel proved; personal property sworn to exceed 1,200,000*l.*

24. Informations laid by the managers of Drury-lane and Covent-garden theatres against the minor theatres, for alleged infringements of their patent right, by performing the regular drama.

26. DEATH OF GEORGE IV.—For many years the king had been scarcely ever free from gout, but its attacks had been resisted by the uncommon strength of his constitution. His life had in consequence been retired. During the spring of 1829 he resided at St. James's-palace, where he gave a ball to the juvenile branches of the nobility, to which the princess Victoria and the young queen of Portugal were invited. Mostly his time was spent within the limits of the royal domain at Windsor. His out-door amusements consisted of sailing and fishing on the Virginia-water, or a drive in a pony-phæton, in the magnificent purlieus of the forest. When the weather was unfavourable, the light reading of the day, or the drama, was resorted to. Almost uninterrupted attacks of illness disturbed his seclusion, while they offered

an inducement to its continuance. Pains of the eyes, and defective vision, gout in the feet and hands, and, lastly, the great malady of his family—dropsy, to which the duke of York, and his sister, the queen of Wurtemberg, had fallen victims, by turns befel him. In April his malady assumed a decisive character, and bulletins began to be issued. He had reached his sixty-eighth year, a term rarely allotted to the wearer of a crown. In May, a commission was appointed to affix the royal signature; the king signifying his consent by word of mouth. Before his death it was with difficulty he could whisper his verbal affirmative. About a week before he died the physician delicately announced to him the inevitable catastrophe. "God's will be done!" was the reply. The king's faculties continued unimpaired to the last moment. On administering to him the last sacrament, the bishop of Chichester reminded him of the duke of Sussex; when the king charged the prelate, after his death, to carry a message to the duke, saying all offences were forgotten, and to assure him of fraternal affection. His majesty's sufferings were very great; during the paroxysms of pain his moans were heard even by the sentinels on duty in the quadrangle. On the night of the 25th his cough was unusually painful, and he motioned a page to alter his position on his couch. Towards three o'clock he felt a sudden attack of the bowels, and desired to be removed to his *chaise percée*; a violent discharge of blood ensued, and his majesty appeared to be fainting. At this moment he attempted to raise his hand to his breast, and faintly ejaculated, "Oh God! I am dying;" and two or three seconds after he said, "*This is death.*" The king was removed to his couch, and the physicians called. Before they arrived the glaze of death was over the eyes of the king, and George IV. had ceased to breathe. A post-mortem examination showed diseased organization of the heart. That organ was uncommonly enlarged, and adhered to the neighbouring parts. There was no effusion of water in the thoracic cavity. The liver was not diseased; the lungs were ulcerated, and there were dropsical symptoms of the skin in various parts of the body. The king was an unusually large, and well-proportioned man. At one time he weighed twenty-four stone. His eyes were good, but his features and countenance did not equal his fine form and noble mien.

## PUBLIC STATUTES. I. TO XI.

## GEORGE IV.

1 Geo. IV., c. 1. Civil list act.

Cap. 9. Granting privileges of British

ships to ships built at Malta, Gibraltar, and Heligoland; and some of them to ships built at Honduras.

Cap. 26. Encouraging coasting-trade of Ireland.

Cap. 87. Enabling landlords more speedily to recover possession of lands and tenements unlawfully held over by tenants. Act extends to the united kingdom, except Scotland.

1 & 2 Geo. IV., c. 18. Repeals Irish act, 28 Eliz., c. 2, which punishes witchcraft and sorcery. Statute against witchcraft in England had been repealed in George the Second's reign.

Cap. 26. For gradual resumption of cash-payments by the bank of England.

Cap. 40. Repeals capital punishment of bankrupt who conceals his effects, and substitutes transportation.

Cap. 41. For abating nuisance from steam-engines, by facilitating prosecution thereof.

Cap. 47. Borough of Grampound disfranchised, and two additional members in lieu given to Yorkshire.

3 Geo. IV., c. 41. Repeals nearly 200 ancient statutes relative to the export and import of various articles; commerce of aliens and denizens; import of popish books; guaging of wine, and other matters. Most of the repealed statutes had become obsolete.

Cap. 53. Regulates the sale of roasted corn, peas, beans, and parsnips.

Cap. 71. Prevents cruelty to cattle.

Cap. 126. For amending the laws relative to the turnpike-roads in England.

4 Geo. IV. c. 52. Abolishes the custom of interring suicides in the highway, with a stake driven through the body; substitutes nocturnal interment, without christian rites of burial.

Cap. 64. Consolidates and amends the laws relative to gaols and houses of correction in England.

Cap. 76. General marriage act.

Cap. 83. Regulates factors and agents, amended by 6 Geo. IV., c. 94.

Cap. 99. For effecting a composition of tithes in Ireland.

5 Geo. IV., c. 74. Establishes uniformity of weights and measures in Britain.

Cap. 83. General vagrant act.

Cap. 96. Consolidates and amends the laws relative to the arbitration of disputes between masters and workmen.

6 Geo. IV., c. 16. Consolidates and amends the bankrupt-laws.

Cap. 50. Consolidates and amends the jury-laws.

Cap. 63. For better preserving the health of children employed in cotton-mills.

Cap. 79. For assimilating Irish to British currency.



Cap. 91. Repeals part of 6 Geo. I., c. 18, which was passed to restrain the extravagance of mercantile speculations, and commonly called the "bubble act."

Cap. 97. For better preserving peace and good order in the English universities.

Cap. 129. Repeals all the statutes from 33 Edw. I., downwards, so far as they relate to combinations of workmen, hours of labour, or rate of wages; but provides punishment for threats, violence, or molesting other workmen.

Caps. 104 to 112. Relate to the management of the customs; navigation and registry of ships; the warehousing of goods, and the prevention of smuggling; forming a new and consolidated body of the numerous statutes relative to these subjects, and relaxing the exclusiveness of the old navigation-laws.

7 Geo. IV., c. 6. Prohibits the circulation of small notes for sums under 5*l*., after April 5th, 1829.

Cap. 34. Discontinuing bounties on salmon and other fisheries.

Cap. 46. Amending law relative to banking firms, and allowing more than six partners to carry on banking, distant 65 miles from London.

Cap. 57. Consolidates and amends the insolvent debtor laws.

Cap. 64. Improving administration of criminal justice.

7 and 8 Geo. IV., c. 18. Prohibits the use of spring-guns, man-traps, and other engines, calculated to destroy human life, or inflict grievous bodily harm, except in dwelling-houses, between sunset and sunrise.

Caps. 27 to 31. Repeal various ancient statutes relative to benefit of clergy, larceny, and other offences; malicious injuries to property; remedies against the hundred, and consolidates and amends their provisions; being a continuation of Mr. Secretary Peel's criminal law reforms.

Cap. 58. For ascertaining the average prices of British corn, to regulate the duties on importation.

Cap. 71. Abolishes arrest for debt on mesne process, where cause of action is less than twenty pounds.

9 Geo. IV., c. 14. Promises of adults to pay debts contracted in infancy, or representations of the character, credit, or conduct of another, not valid without a memorandum in writing.

Cap. 17. Repeals corporation and test acts.

Cap. 22. Consolidates and amends laws relative to controverted elections of members of parliament.

Cap. 31. Consolidates criminal statutes relative to offences against the person.

Cap. 32. Quakers and Moravians al-

lowed to make their solemn affirmation, in lieu of an oath, in criminal and civil cases.

Cap. 60. General act, fixing the scale of duties on the import of corn, varying with the average prices in the home-market. When wheat is 62*s*., and under 63*s*. per quarter, duty 1*l*. 4*s*. 8*d*.; when at or above 73*s*., duty 1*s*. per quarter, with intermediate rates of duty. Oats, rye, and flour, maize, or Indian corn, subject to varying rates of duty.

Cap. 61. General act, licensing ale-houses.

Cap. 66. Repeals acts offering rewards for discovery of longitude, or northern passage between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans.

Cap. 92. Consolidates and amends laws relative to savings-banks.

10 Geo. IV., c. 1. Suppresses catholic associations, and other dangerous assemblies in Ireland.

Cap. 7. Catholic relief bill.

Cap. 8. Disfranchises the forty-shilling freeholders in Ireland, and prohibits any one voting for county members, unless possessed of a freehold estate of ten pounds a-year.

Cap. 44. For improving the police of the metropolis, by abolishing the parochial watch, and placing the entire police of metropolitan district under the control of two commissioners. (Sir Robert Peel's act.)

Cap. 56. Consolidates and amends laws relative to friendly societies.

#### FINANCE, TAXES, AND LOANS.

THE several measures noticed in the *Chronicle* will have shown that the present reign was fertile in expedients, often more ingenious than solid, for bettering the national finances. Little can be gained by mere dexterity in finance; all attempts at legerdemain are futile, and a nation, like an individual, can only become rich either by an increase of income or reduction of expenditure. The most novel scheme of the period, the conversion, in 1822, of the military and naval half-pay and pensions, and civil superannuations, into a fixed annuity for forty-five years, was perfectly illusive as to absolute gain to the nation. It was nothing more than the continuance, under a new form, of the old system of loans, of anticipating distant resources, and throwing the burden of the present on the next generation. The reduction of the Navy five per cents. to four, and, two years after, the reduction of the four per cents. to three and a half, effected a material saving to the public at the expense of the holders of this description of stock. Important savings were also made by the

abolition of offices, and the reduction of establishments. From the termination of the war up to 1823, the taxes repealed amounted to 25,456,202*l.*, and the new taxes imposed to 3,200,000*l.* In 1824 taxes were repealed to the amount of 1,727,000*l.*, and in 1825 to the amount of 3,146,000*l.* (*Ann. Reg.*, lxxv. 117; lxxviii. 70.) This large remission of taxes was, however, more nominal than real, owing to the rise in the value of money, and as a source of relief to the community was more than counterbalanced by the general fall in prices, wages, rents, and profits.

The following statement, continued from p. 754, exhibits the nett income of the United Kingdom during the reign of George IV., from taxes and loans (the last inclusive of exchequer-bills funded, and the excess of issued):—

<i>Years.</i>	<i>By Taxes.</i>	<i>By Loans.</i>
1821	£59,791,078	£13,030,784
1822	59,219,601	15,763,217
1823	57,872,430	6,925,000
1824	59,388,111	9,798,100
1825	57,640,509	4,507,500
1826	55,186,369	12,234,350
1827	55,255,408	7,926,738
1828	56,737,175	3,082,500
1829	55,283,219	3,659,058
1830	54,328,598	2,776,215

#### COMMERCE, NAVIGATION, SHIPPING.

The present reign is remarkable as the beginning of a new era in commercial legislation; and those principles of unrestricted intercourse among nations, which sir James Steuart and Adam Smith demonstrated to be most conducive to their mutual benefit, at length found their way into the British parliament. The marquis of Lansdowne in the upper house, and Messrs. Huskisson, Robinson, and Poulett Thomson in the lower, were the most persevering advocates of the new policy. It found favour even among practical men, and petitions in favour of FREE TRADE were presented from the leading merchants of London, Glasgow, and Bristol. This concurrence of existing interests with the deductions of science slowly overcame the repugnance of the government to change, and important alterations in mercantile law were made during the administration of the earl of Liverpool. In the first place, some hundreds of obsolete statutes relative to commerce, aliens, and denizens, were wholly repealed; the strictness of the navigation-laws, which required that the transit of goods should be in British bottoms, navigated by British seamen, was relaxed; bounties and other expedients for the encouragement of the fisheries of Britain and the linen manufacture of Ire-

land were abolished; wool was allowed to be exported, and manufactured silks and other foreign products to be imported; greater facilities were granted for warehousing foreign commodities in English ports; and lastly, the colonial trade was partly thrown open to foreigners. The old mercantile notions respecting colonies had been that they were planted and protected solely for the use of the mother country; that they had no right, as lord Chatham said, to make "a nail for a horse-shoe for themselves;" all that they produced ought to be brought to our market, all they consumed ought to be purchased exclusively of ourselves: in short, no alien party ought to interfere either as buyers, sellers, or carriers. Under this system reciprocal injuries were inflicted; both parties were impoverished, for both were often compelled to buy articles dearer and worse of each other than they could obtain from strangers.

The principle of free trade was only entered upon in the reign of George IV., and, having to contend against long-cherished prejudices, old monopolies, and often apparently conflicting interests, it was not vigorously and uniformly carried out in that of his successor. There appears, however, no serious ground of apprehension from its unlimited application. It is chiefly in rural industry that we have to apprehend competition; in most other branches we are paramount; and it is a mistake not less odious than selfish, even of the agriculturists, to cherish the impression that they can permanently have a good *home* market for themselves, while they discourage a good foreign market for our own merchants and manufacturers. For a rich and populous community to be wholly independent of other states for a supply of the staple articles of food, is neither possible nor desirable. By occasionally being the customers of the North of Europe for corn, we promote, under the temptation of this contingency, its cultivation, and Poland thus becomes to England, what Sicily was to the Romans, a granary to which we can resort in the eventual failure of our own crops. The principle of the corn-laws has another evil tendency by operating as a bad example to our neighbours, and affording them a pretext which has been often urged, for levying protecting duties on our manufactures in retaliation for the duties we levy on the produce of their own soil. We thus, by the precedent of a baneful legislation, keep alive the reciprocal jealousies and injuries of a system that ought to be obsolete, and in the entire annihilation of which no people in the world are so deeply interested as the British.



Unequalled in the magnitude of our commerce and navigation, in skill, capital, and enterprise, we suffer proportionately more than other countries by a restrictive policy that fetters the intercourse of nations.

Leaving these economical considerations, we turn to the progress of British commerce since the peace, the period at which we terminated our former notice of this subject. The following statement of the *official value* of exports from and imports into Britain, includes, in the former, the aggregate of British, Irish, colonial, and foreign commodities exported. Exhibiting the aggregate of exports is more convenient for comparison, as the same mode of statement was adopted on a former occasion (p. 724) in showing the progress of commerce during the war. Except during the three years of inordinate speculation in the export of colonial products that immediately followed the overthrow of Napoleon, the average exports of colonial and foreign products has been about ten millions, which, deducted from the total of exports, as given below, will show the amount of British and Irish produce and manufactures sent out of the united kingdom :—

Year.	Exports.	Imports.
1816	£57,420,437	£31,822,053
1817	48,215,186	26,374,921
1818	49,502,738	29,910,502
1819	52,796,300	35,845,340
1820	41,862,925	29,681,640
1821	47,345,319	31,515,222
1822	50,796,771	29,769,122
1823	52,770,216	29,482,376
1824	51,755,035	34,591,264
1825	58,213,548	36,056,551
1826	55,608,327	42,660,954
1827	50,399,357	36,174,330
1828	61,085,445	43,489,340
1829	61,948,383	43,536,187
1830	66,071,164	42,311,649

The barometer which measures commercial prosperity is not a favourable balance of trade or excess of exports, as it was formerly considered to be, but the aggregate of the two—exports and imports. It is these together which indicate the industrial activity and social enjoyments of nations. Referring to this test, we have satisfactory evidence of the unequalled prosperity of the empire since the peace. But the increase in the real or declared value of exports has not kept pace with the increase in the official value, which measures not the market value, but the quantities exported. This will appear more striking from the subjoined comparison of the official and declared value of the exports of British and Irish (excluding

foreign and colonial) produce in the years 1815 and 1830 :—

Year.	Official Value.	Declared Value.
1815	£32,200,580	£43,427,373
1830	55,465,723	35,212,873

So that, while, in fifteen years, the *quantities* had increased in the proportion of 32 to 55, their *money value* had absolutely become less in the proportion of 43 to 35. This singular revolution in the custom-house returns has been before adverted to (p. 755), and is mainly the result of our extraordinary mechanical improvements, especially in the application of steam-power, and which has enabled our merchants and manufacturers to offer, and the spirit of competition left them no other alternative, double the amount of goods for the same price in 1830 that they offered in 1815. Our cheap cottons, linens, hardware, &c., have thus been as serviceable to our neighbours as ourselves, and unaccompanied with loss; for we, doubtless, received what we deemed a profitable equivalent in return.

#### ENUMERATIONS OF THE PEOPLE.

In the last notice of this subject (p. 638) we remarked on the dilatoriness manifested by parliament in not instituting, at an earlier period, an authentic inquiry into the amount of the population, and on the conflicting opinions that had prevailed on the actual number of the people. This omission has been amply supplied by four distinct censuses of Britain, taken in 1801, 1811, 1821, and 1831. These decennial enumerations have led to very important conclusions, and throw great light on the social progress of the nation. First, it appears that since the commencement of the present century population has been increasing with unexampled rapidity, especially in the cities and towns; secondly, that the duration of human life has been greatly extended; and, thirdly, that the industrial character of the community has changed, and manufacturing obtained an ascendancy over agricultural employments.

It was not till 1821 that a complete census was taken of Ireland, and which was repeated in 1831. The population of Ireland has been found to increase considerably faster than in Scotland, but not so fast as in England. As the relative wealth of Scotland has probably increased more rapidly than in England or Ireland, the causes that have counteracted a corresponding increase of population must be sought in the consolidation of farms, extensive emigrations, better education of the people, and greater mortality of the towns, owing probably to spirit-drinking, and the crowded mode of living of the

inhabitants. "In Edinburgh," Mr. McCulloch says, "there are nearly 16 individuals to each house; and at an average there are 8.276 inhabitants to a house in the great towns of Scotland, while in those of England the average is only 6.165."—(*Statistical Account of the British Empire*, i. 428.) In Wales population has increased slower than in any division of the empire. The principality is mountainous and sterile; its predominant occupations agriculture and mining, neither of them favourable to a rapid increase of people, especially if the former has not been accompanied, as in Ireland, by a minute subdivision of landed property.

A remarkable result established by the parliamentary censuses was the *diminished rate of mortality*. In 1780 the annual mortality of England and Wales was 1 in 40; in 1801 it was 1 in 48; and in 1830 it had decreased to 1 in 58. (*Porter's Progress of the Nation*, i. 24.) This improvement in the public health may be ascribed to better food, clothing, lodging, and medical aid; more temperate habits of living; greater cleanliness in our persons and dwellings; the introduction of vaccination, and the greater salubrity of the climate from extensive surface-drainage of stagnant water. The description of prevailing diseases, as well as the duration of life, has undergone remarkable changes. Those sweeping epidemics and contagious maladies that formerly carried off one-third or one-fourth of the entire population, seldom or never visit us. There are fewer births in

a family, but, owing to superior nurture, a larger number attain maturity. At the beginning of the century one-third more children died of convulsions than at present. Small-pox destroyed half as many again, and teething one-third more than it does now. Hooping-cough, asthma, cancer, and apoplexy, may have increased, but leprosy, scurvy, cholera, and rickets, have nearly or entirely disappeared. The decrease in fevers, the stationary number of suicides, and the increasing number of those dying of old age and natural decay, afford strong evidence of the improved condition of society.

The *third* feature of interest disclosed by the censuses is the transposition of the industrial ratios. In 1700 the population of the agricultural counties of England appears to have been double that of the manufacturing counties, and about equal to that of metropolitan counties. These proportions began to alter about the middle of the century, and the manufacturing and metropolitan districts continued to gain on the rural, till in 1801 the proportions were respectively 25, 31, 26. In 1811 the population of the manufacturing counties rather exceeded that of the agricultural. In 1821 and 1831 the numbers of the three descriptions of population were as follow:—

	1821.	1831.
Metropolitan . . .	4,298,317	4,952,661
Manufacturing . . .	3,594,204	4,406,014
Agricultural . . .	3,368,418	3,728,000

Mr. Marshall has given the following table of the increase per cent. of the different kinds of population since 1700:—

ENGLAND:		1801 to 1811	1811 to 1821	1821 to 1831	1700 to 1831
Agricultural . . .		9½	15½	10½	84
Manufacturing . . .		18½	20½	22½	295
Metropolitan . . .		16½	18½	15½	147
Total {	England . . .	14½	17½	16	154
	Wales . . .	13	17½	12	117
	Scotland . . .	13	15	13	87
GREAT BRITAIN . . .		14½	17½	15½	144

In Scotland there has been quite as great a change in the pursuits of the people. There the proportion of non-agriculturists to agriculturists has risen from five to six in 1801, to nine to five in 1821, and in 1831 the proportion was about two to one, as in England. In no other European state is there probably such a division of employments. In Italy, ac-

cording to professor Babbage, the proportion of agriculturists to non-agriculturists is as 100 to 31; in France, as 100 to 50; in Ireland the numbers are about equal.

In four rural districts the increase of population, during the last thirty years, has been only 30 per cent.; in London, 58 per cent.; in ten large manufac-



turing towns 80 per cent.; and in three of the largest manufacturing towns, no less than 100 per cent., or exactly double.

The progress of population has far outstripped the calculations of political arithmeticians. Gregory King, one of the most ingenious and best informed of this class, whose calculations we have formerly quoted (p. 266), estimated that the popu-

lation of England and Wales would in the year 1800 amount to 6,420,000; in 1900 to 7,350,000; in 2000 to 8,280,000! (*D'Avenant's Works*, ii. 177.) So that the population of England, according to King's estimate, would, 170 years hence, only exceed by a trifle the actual population of Ireland at the period of the last census.

The following tables comprise the chief statistics, illustrative of the subject of this section, to the end of the reign of George IV. :—

POPULATION OF THE CHIEF TOWNS.

	1821.	1831.	Increase per Cent.
LONDON . . . . .	1,274,800	1,476,646	15
Manchester . . . . .	133,788	182,812	36
Liverpool . . . . .	118,972	165,175	38
Birmingham . . . . .	106,722	146,986	37
Leeds . . . . .	83,796	123,393	47
Coventry . . . . .	21,242	27,070	27
Bristol . . . . .	95,788	117,016	22
Plymouth . . . . .	61,212	75,534	23
Sheffield . . . . .	42,157	59,011	39
Portsmouth . . . . .	45,648	50,389	10
Nottingham . . . . .	40,415	50,680	25
Hull . . . . .	31,425	46,426	47
Brighton . . . . .	24,429	40,634	66
Macclesfield . . . . .	17,746	23,129	30
Bradford . . . . .	13,064	23,233	77
EDINBURGH . . . . .	138,235	162,403	17
Glasgow . . . . .	147,043	202,426	37
Paisley . . . . .	47,003	57,466	22
Aberdeen . . . . .	44,796	58,019	29
Dundee . . . . .	30,575	45,355	48
Greenock . . . . .	22,088	27,571	24
Perth . . . . .	19,068	20,016	4
DUBLIN . . . . .	185,881	204,155	9
Cork . . . . .	100,658	107,016	6
Limerick . . . . .	59,045	66,554	12
Belfast . . . . .	37,277	53,287	42
Galway . . . . .	27,775	33,120	19
Waterford . . . . .	28,679	28,821	—
Londonderry . . . . .	16,971	19,620	15
Kilkenny . . . . .	23,230	23,741	2

Manchester, Glasgow, and Paisley, show the progress of the cotton-manufacture; Leeds of the woollen; Norwich of the crape; Nottingham of the hosiery; Bradford of stuff; Macclesfield and Coventry of silk; Birmingham and Sheffield of hard-

ware. The chief commercial ports are Liverpool, Bristol, Hull, Newcastle, Aberdeen, Dundee, and Belfast. Portsmouth and Plymouth are the great naval arsenals of the united kingdom.

*Progress of the Population of the United Kingdom.*

	1801.	1811.	1821.	1831.
England . . . . .	8,331,434	9,551,888	11,261,437	13,091,005
Wales . . . . .	541,546	611,788	717,438	806,182
Scotland . . . . .	1,599,068	1,805,688	2,093,456	2,365,114
Arm., Nav., &c. . . . .	740,598	640,500	319,300	277,017
Ireland . . . . .			6,801,827	7,767,401
Total	10,942,646	12,609,864	21,193,458	24,306,749

*General Statement, in ACRES, of the cultivated, uncultivated, and unprofitable land of the United Kingdom.—(From Third Report of the Emigration Committee.)*

	Cultivated.	Uncultivated wastes capable of improve- ment.	Unprofitable.	Total.
England	25,632,000	3,454,000	3,256,400	32,342,400
Wales	3,117,000	530,000	1,105,000	4,472,000
Scotland	5,265,000	5,950,000	8,523,930	19,738,930
Ireland	12,125,280	4,900,000	2,416,664	19,441,944
British Islands	383,690	166,000	569,469	1,119,159
	46,522,970	15,000,000	15,871,463	77,394,433

*Christenings and Deaths within the London Bills of Mortality, in the years 1790, 1810, and 1830.*

CHRISTENED.	1790.	1810.	1830.
Males	9,766	10,188	13,229
Females	9,214	9,742	13,444

BURIED.

Males	9,192	10,411	11,110
Females	8,846	9,482	10,535

DIED.

Under 2 years of age	5,877	5,853	6,115
Between 2 and 5	1,948	2,430	1,837
10 .. 5	748	850	871
10 .. 20	640	695	818
20 .. 30	1,277	1,218	1,410
30 .. 40	1,733	1,788	1,759
40 .. 50	1,785	2,018	2,026
50 .. 60	1,548	1,648	2,031
60 .. 70	1,233	1,587	2,055
70 .. 80	818	1,262	1,788
80 .. 90	376	473	815
90 .. 100	51	70	119
Age of 101	..	..	2
102	1	..	1
103	1	..	..
105	1	1	..
108	1	..	..

#### PROGRESS OF EDUCATION.

The peace and prosperity of the present reign were highly favourable to the progress of popular instruction, and this desirable result was effected by the voluntary efforts of the people themselves, unaided by the powers of the government. In the great work of teaching the poor, all parties and persuasions united with the most laudable zeal. The belief that universal education could have any injurious effect upon the character of the community was entirely exploded, and the results of some inquiries that were instituted in 1828, by Mr. Brougham, showed that a great progress had been made since our last notice of this subject (p. 756), and that at the close of George IV.'s reign there were few districts in England where the children of the working classes might not obtain elementary instruction. The information obtained was far from complete, but there were materials sufficient for drawing up

the following comparison of the number of children who attended unendowed Day-schools in 1818 and 1828 in those parishes from which returns were obtained:—

Counties.	1818.	1828.
Bedford	428	745
Berks	660	1,025
Bucks	528	1,011
Cambridge	984	2,642
Chester	268	524
Cornwall	1,508	3,246
Cumberland	1,129	1,468
Devon	2,358	3,920
Dorset	305	1,165
Durham	850	3,579
Essex	735	2,587
Gloucester	640	1,301
Hereford	700	1,156
Hertford	1,163	1,405
Huntingdon	295	727
Kent	2,270	7,186
Lancaster	895	2,124
Leicester	1,088	2,258
Lincoln	2,208	5,218
Norfolk	2,606	5,380
Northampton	596	3,137
Northumberland	2,036	2,891
Nottingham	265	585
Oxford	571	2,424
Rutland	231	573
Salop	2,037	2,963
Somerset	701	3,069
Southampton	3,346	3,998
Stafford	840	1,850
Suffolk	1,695	3,702
Surrey	1,794	5,210
Sussex	2,541	4,164
Warwick	1,475	1,763
Westmoreland	1,659	2,668
Wilts	589	2,377
Worcester	1,276	3,231
York E.	1,755	2,972
York N.	3,549	6,076
York W.	960	3,251
Total	50,034	105,571

CURRENCY, PUBLIC STOCKS, PRICES, CONSUMPTION, MORTALITY.

(Continued from p. 725.)

PRICES of three per cent. Consols, Bank of England, and East India stock in Janu-



ary; number of BANKRUPTS in each year: and the average price, per quarter, of WHEAT at the annual Gazette averages:—

Year.	3Pr.Ct.	Bk.	India.	Bks.	Wht.
1816	60	240	184	2,731	76
1817	63	222	191	1,980	94
1818	80	290	241	1,256	83
1819	78	270	231	1,499	72
1820	68	221	205	1,353	65
1821	70	226	225	1,286	54
1822	76	237	236	1,094	43
1823	77	242	247	975	51
1824	88	235	270	923	62
1825	93	231	283	1,216	66
1826	77	211	246	2,583	*56
1827	82	204	240	1,040	56
1828	83	206	244	1,223	60
1829	86	213	235	1,590	66
1830	91	211	225	1,308	64

sumption, exclusive of the duty, were as follow:—

Year.	Coal, pr.chl.	Coffee, pr.ct.	Flour, pr.sk.	Sugar, pr.ct.	Tea, pr.lb.
1816	36	110	55	52	52
1817	29	103	105	43	32
1818	32	110	80	47	31
1819	33	160	70	45	32
1820	31	160	60	29	22
1821	31	138	55	33	27
1822	39	130	55	27	31
1823	34	134	40	26	29
1824	30	118	60	33	29
1825	27	100	65	31	29
1826	28	102	60	36	25
1827	30	105	53	30	21
1828	29	88	50	32	19
1829	25	88	75	29	24
1830	28	84	60	21	21

Newcastle coal; coffee, the highest priced Jamaica; sugar, raw brown Jamaica; tea, Bohea. Prices are stated in shillings, except tea, which is in pence.

PRICES of the following articles of con-

CIRCULATION of the Bank of England; amount of Bullion in the Bank; and coinage of Gold and Silver.

Year.	Circulation.	Bullion.	Gold.	Silver.
1816	£26,886,170	£ 6,101,830	£ ———	£1,806,181
1817	28,470,840	10,674,615	4,268,330	2,437,095
1818	26,986,560	8,209,360	2,862,373	576,299
1819	25,189,695	3,889,990	3,574	1,267,272
1820	23,891,725	6,561,065	949,516	847,717
1821	22,090,110	11,551,745	9,520,758	433,686
1822	18,065,070	10,577,555	5,356,787	31,430
1823	18,811,740	11,551,235	759,748	285,271
1824	19,934,555	12,798,745	4,065,075	282,070
1825	20,076,300	6,206,710	4,580,919	417,555
1826	23,515,735	4,606,870	5,896,461	608,605
1827	22,319,105	10,311,395	2,512,636	33,019
1828	21,669,110	10,423,085	1,008,559	16,288
1829	19,709,115	6,815,275	2,446,754	108,259
1830	20,757,715	10,160,740	2,387,881	151

The act for resuming payments in specie by the Bank passed in 1819; in 1826 the circulation of notes under 5*l*. was restricted, and in 1829 the circulation of them was prohibited in England and Wales. The coinage of gold from 1791 to 1797, both

inclusive, averaged 1,699,021*l*.; from 1797 to 1804 the annual average was 829,929*l*.; and from 1804 to the end of the war in 1815 the average was 356,495*l*. The entire coinage of silver, from 1790 to 1815, inclusive, amounted only to 569*l*.

CATTLE and SHEEP sold in Smithfield Market; with the CHRISTENINGS and BURIALS within the London Bills of Mortality:—

Year.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Burials.	Christenings.
1816	120,439	968,560	20,316	23,581
1817	129,888	1,044,710	19,968	24,129
1818	138,047	963,250	19,705	24,233
1819	135,226	949,900	19,228	24,300
1820	132,933	947,700	19,348	23,158
1821	129,125	1,107,230	18,458	25,229
1822	142,043	1,340,160	18,451	25,232
1823	149,552	1,264,920	20,587	27,679
1824	163,615	1,239,720	20,237	25,758
1825	156,985	1,130,310	21,026	25,624
1826	143,460	1,270,530	20,758	22,244
1827	138,363	1,335,100	22,292	29,925
1828	147,698	1,288,460	21,709	26,545
1829	158,313	1,240,300	23,524	27,028
1830	159,907	1,287,070	21,615	26,743

\* Imperial bushel introduced in 1826, the capacity of which exceeds the former in the proportion of 33 to 32.

## MEN OF LETTERS.

George Ellis, criticism and poetry, 1745—1815. "Specimens of the Early English Poets," 8vo., 1790; "Specimens of Early English Romances," 3 vols., 8vo. Mr. Ellis was one of the junta of wits concerned in the political satire of "The Rolliad," and wrote a preface and notes to Way's Translation of Le Grand's *Fabliaux*.

William Nicholson, mathematics and chemistry, 1753—1815. "Introduction to Natural Philosophy," 2 vols., 8vo., 1782; "Dictionary of Chemistry," 2 vols., 4to., 1795; "The British Encyclopædia," 6 vols., 8vo., 1807—1809.

Adam Fergusson, moral and political philosophy, 1723—1816. "History of Civil Society," 4to., 1766; "Institutes of Moral Philosophy," 8vo., 1769; "History of the Roman Republic," 3 vols., 4to., 1784; "Principles of Moral and Political Science," the substance of the lectures of the professor, delivered in the university of Edinburgh, 2 vols., 4to., 1792.

R. B. Sheridan, drama and oratory, 1751—1816. "The Rivals," 1775; "Verses to the Memory of Garrick," 4to., 1779; "The Duenna;" "School for Scandal;" "Comparative Statement of the two Bills for the Better Government of India," 4to., 1788; "St. Patrick's Day;" "The Critic;" "A Trip to Scarborough," a comedy, altered from Vanbrugh. Mr. Sheridan translated "Pizarro;" and was the author of the pantomime of "Robinson Crusoe."

Miss Austen, novels, 1775—1817. "Sense and Sensibility;" "Pride and Prejudice;" "Mansfield Park;" "Emma."

John Playfair, mathematics and geology, 1749—1819. "Elements of Geometry," 1796; "Illustrations of the Huttonian Theory of the Earth," 1802; "Complete System of Geography, Ancient and Modern," 5 vols., 4to., 1808—1813; "Outlines of Natural Philosophy," 8vo., 1812. Various papers in the *Philosophical Transactions*, and the *Transactions of the Edinburgh Society*. Professor Playfair also composed the whole of the first part, and had nearly completed the second part, of the able Preliminary Dissertation on the History of the Mathematical Sciences, prefixed to the Supplement to the *Encyclopædia Britannica*.

Arthur Young, agriculture and travels, 1741—1820. "The Farmer's Letters," 1767; "Six Weeks' Tour in the Southern Counties," 1768; "Tour through the North of England," 1770; "Experimental Agriculture," 2 vols., 4to., 1770; "Tour through the East of England," 4 vols., 8vo., 1771; "Proposals to the Legislature for Numbering the People," 1771; "Tour in Ireland," 4to., 1780; "Travels in France," 2 vols., 4to., 1792—1794; "Farm-

er's Kalendar," 8vo., 1804; "An Inquiry into the Rise of Prices," 8vo., 1815.

Sir Joseph Banks, natural history, 1743—1820. "Short Account of the Diseases in Corn, called Blight, Mildew, and Rust," 4to., 1803. Sir Joseph's other writings consisted of papers in the *Philosophical Transactions*, *Archæologia*, &c.

Thomas Scott, divinity, 1747—1821. "The Force of Truth," a kind of autobiographical tract, 1799; "Defence of Calvinism;" "Commentary on the Bible," 6 vols., 4to.

John Scott, travels and poetry, 1821. "Visit to Paris in 1815," 8vo.; "Paris Revisited in 1815," 8vo., 1816; "The House of Mourning," a poem.

John Keats, poetry, 1796—1820. "Endymion," 1818; "Louisa," "Isabella," and other poems, 1820.

Elizabeth Inchbald, drama and novels, 1756—1821. "A Mogul Tale," a farce, 1784; "A Simple Story," a novel, 4 vols., 12mo., 1791; "Every one has his Fault," a comedy, 1794; "Lovers' Vows," a translation from Kotzebue, 1798; "To Marry and not to Marry," 1805. Mrs. Inchbald edited the "British Theatre," 25 vols., 12mo. 1806—1809; and the "Modern Theatre," 10 vols., 12mo., 1809.

Vicesimus Knox, morals and polite literature, 1752—1821. "Essays, Moral and Literary," 12mo., 1777; "Liberal Education," 1781; "Elegant Extracts, in prose," also in verse; "Winter Evenings," 3 vols., 12mo., 1788; "Antipolemus," a plea against war, translated from Erasmus, 12mo., 1794; "Christian Philosophy," 2 vols., 12mo., 1795. Dr. Knox is also regarded as the author of the "Spirit of Despotism," published anonymously in 1794, and since reprinted.

Sir William Herschel, astronomy, 1738—1822. "Catalogue of Stars," folio, 1798.

Rev. E. D. Clarke, travels, mineralogy, 1823. "Methodical Distribution of the Mineral Kingdom," folio, 1807; "Description of Greek Marbles," 8vo., 1809; "Travels in Europe, Asia, and Africa," 1811; "Travels in Russia."

Ann Radcliffe, novels, 1764—1823. "The Mysteries of Udolpho;" "Travels through Holland," 1793.

Robert Bloomfield, poetry, 1766—1823. "The Farmer's Boy," 1800; "Wild Flowers," 1806; "Hazlewood Hall," a village drama.

Percy Bysshe Shelley, poetry, 1792—1822. "Queen Mab;" "Revolt of Islam;" "Alastor;" "Prometheus Unbound;" "The Cenci," a tragedy; and a posthumous volume of poems.

David Ricardo, political economy, 1772—1823. "The High Price of Bullion a



Proof of Depreciation," 1810; "An Essay on Rent;" "Principles of Political Economy and Taxation," 8vo., 1817.

Charles Hutton, mathematics, 1737—1823. "Treatise on Arithmetic," 1764; "Principles of Bridges," 8vo., 1772; "Mathematical Tables," 1785; "Mathematical and Philosophical Dictionary," 2 vols., 4to., 1796; "Course of Mathematics," 2 vols., 8vo., 1798; "Tracts on Mathematical and Philosophical Subjects," 3 vols., 8vo., 1812.

Lord Byron, poetry, 1788—1824, "Hours of Idleness," 8vo., 1807; "English Bards and Scotch Reviewers," 1809; "Childe Harold's Pilgrimage, 4to., 1812; "The Giaour," 8vo., 1813; "The Bride of Abydos," 1813; "The Corsair;" "Lara;" "The Siege of Corinth;" "The Prisoner of Chillon;" "Manfred," a tragedy; and the "Lament of Tasso," in 1817; "Beppo," 1818; "Mazeppa," and first cantos of "Don Juan," 1819; "Marino Faliero;" "Sardanapalus;" "The Two Foscari;" "Cain;" "Vision of Judgment;" "Heaven and Earth;" "Werner," a tragedy; "Deformed Transformed," a fragment.

John Aikin, M.D., medical and general literature, 1747—1822. "Thoughts on Hospitals," 1771; "Character of the late John Howard," 1791; "General Biographical Dictionary," 9 vols., 4to., 1799—1813 (assisted by Dr. Enfield and other writers); "Essays, Literary and Miscellaneous," 1811; "Annals of the Reign of George III.," 2 vols., 8vo., 1816.

Francis Maseres, mathematics and law, 1731—1824. "Dissertation on the Negative Sign in Algebra," 4to., 1759; "The Canadian Freeholder," 3 vols., 8vo., 1779; "Doctrine of Life Annuities," 2 vols., 4to., 1783; "Occasional Essays," 8vo., 1809. Baron Maseres published several other works, either original or compilations, and was the author of several papers in the Philosophical Transactions and the Archæologia.

Mrs. Barbauld, poems and tales, 1743—1825. "Early Lessons," 4to., 1773; "Works of Collins," 1797; "British Novelists," 50 vols., 8vo., 1810; "Eighteen Hundred and Eleven," a poem, 4to., 1812.

Samuel Parr, divinity and criticism, 1747—1825. "Discourse on the late Fast," 4to., 1781; "Education and Charity Schools;" "Bellendenus de Statu," 1787; "Warburton Tracts," 1789; "Address to the Dissenters of Birmingham," 1792; "A Spital Sermon," preached before the lord-mayor, 4to., 1800; "Character of Mr. Fox," 2 vols., 8vo., 1809. In 1819 Dr. Parr reprinted the speeches of Roger Long and John Taylor, of Cambridge, with critical memoirs of the authors; and after his death a pamphlet, written by him, was

published, defending bishop Halifax from the charge of having become a convert to popery in his last sickness.

Peter Elmsley, philology, 1773—1825. "Acharnanes," 1809; "Œdipus Tyrannus," 1811; "Heraclidæ," 1815; "Medea," 1818; "Bacchæ," 1821; "Œdipus Coloneus," 1823: tragedies of Sophocles and Euripides. Professor Elmsley contributed several classical articles to the early numbers of the *Edinburgh Review*; and at a subsequent period wrote occasionally in the *Quarterly Review*.

Reginald Heber, bishop of Calcutta, 1783—1826. "Life of Jeremy Taylor," 1822. Dr. Heber had previously published several prize-poems and sermons; and subsequent to the death of the prelate appeared his "Narrative of a Journey in Upper India," 2 vols., 4to.

Dr. Thomas Young, natural philosophy and hieroglyphics,—1829. "Lectures on Natural Philosophy," 2 vols., 4to., 1807; "Practical Nosology," 1812; "Discoveries in Hieroglyphical Literature and Egyptian Antiquities," 8vo., 1823. Dr. Young contributed many valuable articles to the Supplement to the Encyclopædia Britannica.

Sir Humphrey Davy, chemistry, 1779—1829. "Researches, Chemical and Philosophical, chiefly concerning Nitrous Oxide and its Respiration," 8vo., 1800; "Elements of Agricultural Chemistry," 1813; "Salmonia, or the Days of Fly-fishing," 1828; besides numerous contributions to the scientific journals, communicating sir Humphrey's important discoveries.

William Wollaston, chemistry, 1766—1828. Dr. Wollaston was more eminent for discoveries than his writings, which consisted of papers in the philosophical transactions and periodical journals. Among his discoveries and inventions were the lucernal microscope, the periscopic camera obscura, the reflective goniometer, the scale of chemical equivalents, the new metal called palladium, and the cystic oxide. The doctor is said to have realised 30,000*l.* by his process for procuring platinum in a malleable state.

Miss Benger, biography, 1778—1827. "Memoirs of John Tobin;" "Memoirs of Mary Queen of Scots;" "Life of Anne Boleyn."

Charles Mills, history, 1788—1826. "History of Mahommedanism," 1817; "History of the Crusades," 1819; "History of Chivalry," 1825.

Abraham Rees, miscellanies, 1743—1825. "Economy Illustrated and Recommended," 1800; "Practical Sermons," 2 vols., 8vo., 1809—1813; "Principles of Protestant Dissenters stated and vindicated." The work by which Dr. Rees is

best known is the "Cyclopedia," the publication of which he superintended from the appearance of the first volume, in 1802, to its completion in forty-five volumes.

George Chalmers, statistics, politics, 1742—1825. "Political Annals of the United Colonies to 1763," 4to., 1780; "Estimate of the Comparative Strength of Great Britain," 4to., 1782, often reprinted in 8vo.; "Life of Thomas Ruddiman," 1794; "Caledonia, an Account, Historical and Topographical, of North Britain," 4to., 1807.

William Gifford, satires, translations, 1756—1826. "The Baviad," 8vo., 1794; "The Mæviad," 8vo., 1795; "Satires of Juvenal, with notes," 4to., 1802. Mr. Gifford published editions, with notes, of the plays of Massinger, Ben Jonson, Ford, and Shirley, and was many years editor of the Quarterly Review (see Dec. 31, 1826).

William Mitford, history, philology, 1734—1827. "Essay on the Harmony of Language," 8vo., 1774; "History of Greece," 1784—1810, 4 vols. 4to.; "Treatise on the Military Force of the Kingdom," 8vo.; "Considerations on the Corn Laws," 1791.

Archdeacon Cox, travels, history, 1747—1828. "Travels in Switzerland," 3 vols. 8vo., 1779; "Travels in Poland, Russia, and Sweden," 5 vols. 8vo., 1784; "Memoirs of Sir Robert Walpole," 3 vols. 4to., 1798; "Memoirs of Horatio Lord Walpole," 4to., 1802; "Memoirs of the Bourbon Kings of Spain," 3 vols. 4to., 1813; "Memoirs of the Duke of Marlborough," 3 vols. 4to., 1817—19; "Shrewsbury Correspondence," 4to., 1821; "Memoirs of the Pelham Administration," left unfinished at the death of the archdeacon.

William Belsham, history, politics, 1752—1827. "Historical, Political, and Literary Essays," 2 vols. 8vo., 1789; "History of Great Britain from 1688 to the Treaty of Amiens," 12 vols. 8vo., 1793—1806.

Thomas Belsham, theology, metaphysics, 1749—1829. "Importance of Truth and the Duty of making an open profession of it," 8vo., 1790; "Review of Wilberforce's Practical View," 1798; "Memoirs of the late Theophilus Lindsay," 1812.

Dugald Stewart, metaphysics, ethics, 1753—1828. "Elements of the Philosophy of the Human Mind," 1st vol. 1792, 2nd vol. 1813, 3rd vol. 1827; "Outlines of Moral Philosophy for the use of Students," 1793. "Dr. Adam Smith's Essays, with a Life of the Author," 1801; "Life and Writings of Dr. Robertson," 1801; "Life and Writings of Dr. Reid," 1803; "Philosophical Essays," 4to., 1810; "Account of a Boy born Blind and Deaf," 4to., 1812. Professor Stewart was also author of the admirable Preliminary Dissertation on Metaphysical, Ethical, and Political

Philosophy, in vol. I. of the Supplement to the Encyclopedia Britannica.

Professor Hamilton, commerce, finance, 1743—1829. "Introduction to Merchandise," 2 vols. 8vo., 1777; "System of Arithmetic and Book-keeping," 12mo., 1788; "Inquiry into the National Debt," 8vo., 1813.

John Rennel, geography, 1740—1830. "Bengal Atlas," folio, 1781; "Memoir on the Geography of Africa," 4to., 1790; "Geographical System of Herodotus Explained," 4to., 1800; "Observations on the Topography of the Plain of Troy," 4to., 1814.

Robert Nares, theology, philology, criticism, 1754—1829. "Essay on the Division of Socrates," 8vo., 1782; "Elements of Orthoepey," 8vo., 1784; "Chronological View of the Prophecies," 1805; "A Glossary of Words and Phrases used in the Elizabethan age," 4to., 1822. Archdeacon Nares was a contributor to the Classical Journal, and, in conjunction with Mr. Beloe, established, in 1793, the British Critic, which Dr. Nares conducted till the end of the forty-second volume.

Sir William Drummond, antiquity, polite literature —1828. "Review of the Governments of Sparta and Athens," 8vo., 1794; "Academical Questions," 1805; "Remarks on the Origin of Empires," 2 vols. 8vo., 1824.

Henry Neele, poetry, novels, 1798—1828. "Poems," "Dramatic Scenes," and the "Romance of History."

Matthew Dowes, jurisprudence, metaphysics, 1829. "Liberty and Toleration," 8vo., 1780; "Crimes and Punishments," 8vo., 1782; "Deformity of the Doctrine of Libel," 8vo., 1785.

Rev. Mark Noble, history, genealogy, —1827. "Memoirs of the Protectorate House of Cromwell," 2 vols. 8vo., 1784; "Lives of the English Regicides," 2 vols. 8vo., 1797; "History of the College of Arms," 4to., 1805.

Helen Maria Williams, history, general literature, 1762—1827. "Edwin and Elfrieda," a tale in verse, 4to., 1782; "Letters written in France," in 1790; "Sketch of the Politics of France," 4 vols. 8vo., 1796; "Sketches of Manners and Opinions in France," 2 vols. 8vo., 1800; "A Narrative of Events in France, in 1815;" "Julia," a novel; exclusive of translations.

Francis Plowden, law, history, 1829. "Investigation of the Native Rights of British Subjects," 8vo., 1784; "Jura Anglorum," 8vo., 1792, "Church and State," 4to., 1795; "Historical Review of Ireland from Henry II. to the Union," 3 vols. 4to., 1803; "Principles and Law of Tithing Illustrated," 8vo., 1806.

John Reeves, politics, theology, 1753—



1829. "Inquiry into the Nature of Property as defined by the Law," 8vo., 1779; "History of the English Law," 2 vols. 4to., 1783; "Thoughts on the English Government," 8vo., 1795; "The Holy Bible with notes," 10 vols. 8vo. 1802.

Richard Chenevix, chemistry, poetry—1830. "Remarks on Chemical Nomen-

clature," 1802, 12mo.; "The Mantuan Revels," a comedy; "Henry the Seventh," an historical tragedy. Mr. Chenevix was a native of Ireland, possessed of great versatility of talent, and was the author of an "Essay on National Character," in 2 vols., 8vo., published after his death, which took place at Paris, April 5, 1830.

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#### WILLIAM IV. A.D. 1830 to 1837.

CONSTITUTIONAL agitations on the Continent and in England form a distinguishing feature of the present reign. It is a brief period, but replete with interesting and important events. William IV. had scarcely acceded to the British throne, ere an astounding revolution burst forth from the capital of France, as unexpected by the European nations in the mode of its achievement as in the rapidity of its consummation. A crisis had arrived between conflicting parties, and the government of Charles X. sought, by one audacious blow, to strike down the liberal spirit it was no longer able, successfully, to contend against. It was a tiger-spring, which failing, the assailant fell, the unpitied victim of a wild and deadly aim.

Restored by the foreign powers, in 1814, after being ignominiously expelled by the public voice, the re-union was compulsory, and the Bourbons never assimilated in heart or mind with the French nation. Their history, like that of the Stuarts, offers a sad example of the inveteracy of hereditary habits and associations. Louis XVIII., however, had shown himself more disposed to amalgamate with new interests and ideas than his brother and successor, the Count D'Artois. He was less prejudiced, and better informed, than Charles, but jesuitical—not so direct and sincere—and thought the end justified the means. He was a timid prince, who, having experienced a long term of adversity, did not, for the third time, wish to expose himself to its bitterness, by hazardous experiments on the patience of his subjects. Though too much of a royalist to admit that the throne had been vacant during his absence of twenty-five years, or to accept a constitutional charter from the French, he vouchsafed to bestow one upon them, which contained many provisions, not less liberal and enlightened than those tendered to Louis XVI. by the Constituent Assembly. He often checked the ultra zeal of his emigrant advisers; and was dragged onward, rather than willingly participated in their retrograding schemes. Still his government did not acquire stability. It never won the confidence of the French people. They were internally prosperous; suffered under no physical calamity, but were politically discontented. Their pride was hurt, their fears kept awake. A hostile family had been imposed upon them. All that had been done in its inglorious exile was known to be held as a crime, for which France was bound to repent—to ask pardon. The patriotic principles of 1789 were contemned; the military glories of the Republic and of the empire were not acknowledged; and the multitudinous landed interests, which had grown up on the confiscated domains of the church and noblesse, were felt to be endangered. Hence the disquietudes and collisions that followed the restoration of Louis, and which impelled his government into the adoption of unconstitutional

stretches of authority, hardly less violent than those that marked the course of his successor. Sometimes the press was controlled, by the imposition of a censorship; sometimes the elections for deputies were arbitrarily interfered with; and sometimes the peerage was suddenly augmented, to carry obnoxious measures.\*

The death of the king, in 1824, had no tendency to allay apprehensions, or produce greater harmony between the ruler and the ruled. Louis had affected to pursue a middle course; his successor had no such ambition. Charles was a bold, bigoted man: unlike his brother, he was a sincere catholic. He hated the revolution, and all its fruits, and never disguised his hatred. The royalists knew they could depend on his firmness, and were not slow to avail themselves of his support.

In the first year of his reign, the rights of the electors were openly violated by the prefects: the result was an overwhelming ministerial majority, which adopted a measure to extend the duration of the chamber of deputies to seven years, and its renewal in totality, instead of annually, by one-fifth. Next followed a law to indemnify the emigrants. Thirty millions of rentes, in the Three per cents. were assigned for this purpose, representing, at the current price of 75 of that stock, a capital of 30,000,000*l.* An alteration in the law of property, favourable in certain cases, to its entailment, was carried. In 1827 Villèle ventured on the bold measure of disbanding the national guard of Paris, because it had openly expressed satisfaction at the defeat of a restrictive law of the press. He next took the decisive step, apparently without pressing necessity, of dissolving the chamber of deputies. This was fatal to his ministry, by affording an opportunity to all his opponents to display their hostility. Many of the royalists were offended by his plan for the reduction of the interest of the debt, his augmentations of the peerage, and his refusals to support their extreme policy; while, on the other hand, the liberals were alienated by the anti-revolutionary tendency of his government. The two parties coalesced to overthrow his administration; they jointly selected candidates, whom they supported, during the general election, with their united strength, and everywhere the minister's friends were defeated.

M. de Villèle, unable to withstand the coalition, did not wait the assembling of the chambers, but resigned January 5, 1828. The Martignac ministry followed, consisting of many of the colleagues of Villèle, but more inclined than that minister towards constitutional principles. It abolished the discretionary power of re-establishing the censorship of the press, and abrogated the hateful law of tendency as respected the journals. It also fortified the elective rights of the nation, by securing the purity of the electoral lists, against the frauds of the local authorities; and finally issued an ordinance on education, that relieved society from the encroachments of the Jesuits, and the alarm of clerical domination. These advances towards liberalism seem to have alarmed the king, and he dismissed his responsible advisers.

In August, 1829, Charles took a step which his predecessor had never ventured upon, and that was, to appoint a ministry, consisting wholly of royalists. At the head of this ministry was prince de Polignac, a devoted Bourbonite, and bigoted catholic. During the exile of the Bourbons, the

\* To carry, in 1818, the law of election, 67 peers were created at once; in 1823—the year of intervention in Spanish affairs—27 peers were made by M. de Villèle; and in 1827, the same minister created 76 more, to recover the royalist majority, which had been lost through the creations of M. Decazes, in 1819



prince had engaged in various wild schemes for their restoration, and was implicated, along with M. D'Haussez—another of the new ministers—in the conspiracy of Georges, for the assassination of Buonaparte. Bourmont, appointed the new minister of war, had been a Vendean chief, and the last that submitted: he had, however, joined Napoleon on his return from Elba, but deserted him on the eve of the battle of Waterloo; and gave the fatal evidence, on the trial of marshal Ney, that determined the fate of that gallant soldier. The other ministers were royalist advocates, or emigrants, who had fought in the army of the prince of Condé.

The appointment of the Polignac ministry left no doubt of the designs of the court, and preparations were made to counteract them. An association was formed in Brittany to resist the payment of taxes, and subscriptions were set on foot to indemnify those who might suffer in resisting the levy of imposts. The journals were mostly on the liberal side; they denounced, with almost one accord, the new ministry, and endeavoured, by spirited appeals to the people, and even to the French military, to rouse them to a sense of the threatened danger to the public liberties. The royalists were not idle, and also had recourse to the press, either to allay popular apprehension, or to vindicate their intended policy. In the *Moniteur* appeared a manifesto from prince Polignac, in which he unreservedly disclaimed all the rumoured projects for destroying the Charter; for gaining a majority in the chamber of deputies, by an unconstitutional addition of aristocratic members; for calling in foreign armies to overawe the French people; and for raising forces by royal ordinances. On the other hand, a royalist publication was put forth, describing with great ability the existing crisis, and recommending to the prince almost the precise course he ultimately adopted. It contended that France had no real evil to complain of; all the abuses of her institutions had been swept away by the revolution; notwithstanding she was in a state of constant agitation; that this agitation arose from the political incongruity of a monarchy, unsupported by privileged orders; that nothing like it existed in England, where the aristocracy were predominant through their wealth and parliamentary influence. France was essentially democratic; its peerage existed in name only, and its ecclesiastical hierarchy the same; there was no gradation of classes; hardly any inequality of property; no corps of sinecurists, or well-paid placemen: the monarch was insulated, and without support. In conclusion, the writer recommended the abrogation of the Charter, and the establishment of a dictatorship, in lieu of the constitutional system.\*

M. Cottu described the juncture correctly; his premises were true; his conclusions false and pernicious. He reasoned like a one-sided partisan, who had neither learnt nor unlearned by the events of the last forty years; who thought that the king, not the people, was the state. Most truly he stated that the experience of the last fifteen years had shown that France could not continue in her present state, but her difficulties admitted of a double solution—either the will of the prince or the nation must be paramount. The question at issue was, whether the royal pleasure or the national desires should succumb? whether the prejudices of the Bourbons or the reason of France should triumph? whether Charles should be indulged in his love of a superstitious priesthood, privileged orders, tithes, feudal services, and provincial administrations; or the French, in their preference of representative institutions, as a better guarantee than the

\* *De la Nécessité d'une Dictature.* Par M. Cottu. Paris, 1830.

uncertain will of an individual, of civil liberty, equality of rights, social honours, and possessions. M. Cottu was for humouring the monarch; the people were for humouring themselves. Though erroneous in reasoning, and dangerous in application, the advice of the councillor of the Cour Royale found favour in England; and the leading journal of a great political party encouraged the French royalists to persevere in the perilous course on which it appears they had determined to venture.\*

The chambers were opened by the king, March 2nd, in a speech of ominous import. "If culpable manœuvres," said Charles, "should raise up against my government obstacles which I do not wish to foresee, I shall find the *power of surmounting them*, in my resolution to maintain the public peace, in my just confidence in Frenchmen, and in the love which they have always shown to their kings." The deputies, in their address, expressed their want of confidence in the government; and Charles replied, that his "intentions were immutable." As a decided majority of the deputies were against the ministry, no alternative remained but their dismissal, or a dissolution of the chamber. The king decided on the latter, trusting that by a vigorous exertion of government influence over the electoral colleges, to obtain a majority in the next chamber. He was disappointed, as might have been anticipated, from the circumstances under which he appealed to the public opinion. He next seems to have taken the resolution of governing without the chambers; and out came, on the 26th July, the famous ordinances, by which the constitution was swept away, and the Charter, as some with more zeal than foresight had recommended, thrown to the winds.

The events of the memorable three days that followed are detailed in the *Chronicle*. On Monday the ordinances appeared in the *Moniteur*; on Tuesday the people murmured; on Wednesday they took up arms—fought, and bled; on Thursday they triumphed over armed oppression; and on Friday the elder branch of the Bourbons had ceased to reign. Europe stood aghast at these marvellous occurrences—at the infatuation of the king, and the matchless heroism of the people. In ten days they had hurled a tyrant from his throne, and elected, in his stead, a constitutional sovereign, bound by conditions fixed by the national representatives. These sudden vicissitudes—this mighty convulsion, shook every throne. Within a month after, Belgium became the scene of a popular revolution hardly less astonishing. The shock was felt throughout Germany, in Italy, and Poland, and even in England, as we shall now proceed to indicate.

William IV., on his accession, found the WELLINGTON MINISTRY in power, and expressed no dissatisfaction with their measures or intention of removing them. But the administration was weak—it was unsupported by the anti-catholic section of the tories, and depended for continuance in

\* After an approving notice of M. Cottu's book, the *Quarterly Review*, lxxxv. 239, said,—“We, therefore, hope and trust that the king of France and his present ministers may succeed, if such be their object, in establishing a censorship on the press, and likewise in acquiring so decided a preponderance in the chamber of deputies, that its existence as an independent body, capable of bearding the monarchy, as it has recently done, shall be no longer recognised. This, we own, will be a virtual *abolition of the Charter*.” Further on they say,—“We think it is hardly possible to doubt that, unless the existing government adopts, and succeeds in carrying into effect, some very decisive measures in the course of the *present year*, there will ensue another burst of convulsion, and Napoleon has left no saying of more indisputable truth behind him, than that a revolution in France is a revolution in Europe.” This was in May, two months before the July revolution.



authority, on the voluntary co-operation of the opposition, with whom it was not in hearty accordance on most questions of foreign and domestic policy. The death of George IV. and the occurrences of the parliamentary session that preceded it, increased the divergence between the minister and his auxiliaries, and essentially changed the political landscape. It was evident that the premier was not disposed to advance much further with his whig allies, while the latter pressed upon him the alternative of unpopularity or an unflinching progression in his reformatory course. The country was in difficulties, and sir James Graham truly urged that it was only in moments of distress that useful purposes could be effected. Acting on this principle, the baronet made motions supported by eloquent speeches for returns of the salaries and emoluments of privy councillors,\* for the salaries and fees of consuls, and for returns of the expenses of diplomatic missions; all which were negatived by large majorities. Two motions of lord John Russell for parliamentary reform shared a like fate. Sir Robert Peel and sir Harry Inglis contended that legislative reform was not required; Mr. Horace Twiss and sir George Murray, not so sanguine in their optimism, did not hold precisely the same faith, but held that giving representatives to Manchester, Leeds, and Birmingham, would be a *violent* proceeding. These ministerial negatives evinced that the fund of liberalism in the administration was spent; that further popular concessions were not to be expected, and the whigs availed themselves of the opportunity afforded by the commencement of a new reign and consequent dissolution of parliament to dissolve the ducal alliance, and withdraw from the support of a government in which they had never officially participated.

This defection was not the only disadvantage with which the ministry had to grapple. The experience and abilities of its chief were deemed unequal to the task of civil government; and his Catholic Relief Act and some other measures were known to have been compulsory, not voluntary concessions. Hence, it lacked the national confidence, and failed to reap thanks or gratitude for laudable acts. Moreover, all tories were in discredit by the progress of popular information. For twenty years the abuses of public institutions, of public offices, of chartered companies, in charitable foundations, in the management of the public revenue, and crown revenues, had been a constant subject of exposure and animadversion by Mr. Brougham, Mr. Creevy, Lord Cochrane, Sir H. Parnell, Mr. Hume, Mr. Cobbett, and others. It was discovered and demonstrated that the government had failed in its legitimate purposes; that it had been carried on more for the benefit of the administrators than the community; that public services were over or unequally or inadequately remunerated; that public money was squandered in the maintenance of useless sinecures and undeserved pensions; and that peers, and commoners, their relatives, dependents, and connexions alike abetted, as they participated in the general corruption. Even the ministry of the duke of Wellington had been found not free from the opprobrium of his predecessors. Official patronage was abused, and cabinet ministers were found creating offices and putting their sons into them, and then abolishing the offices and retaining the compensation-pensions.†

It was amidst the disgust excited by these exposures, in the legislature

\* See May 14, 1830.

† Sir R. Heron's motion, March 26, on the pensions granted to the hon. R. Dundas and the hon. W. L. Bathurst, which was carried against the Wellington ministry by 139 to 121

and out, some old and others recent, that parliament was dissolved July 24. The popular voice throughout the United Kingdom was against the prime minister; by the whigs he was deserted, and the violent of his own party, who alleged they had been betrayed, were bitterly hostile to him. To add to his difficulties, almost before the elections began, came the thunder-clap of the insurrection in Paris; and, shortly after a second peal, hardly less astounding, from Brussels. The nation was intoxicated with joy at these triumphs over oppression. All the horrors left by the first French revolution were effaced by the success and magnanimity of the second; even the property-classes became enamoured of popular commotions, and all who did not share in the gladness inspired by passing events, incurred dislike—almost execration. The minister duke became especially obnoxious, because he was suspected, though unjustly, of having been privy to the plot and elevation of prince Polignac, and the rumour told effectively against him at the elections. His colleagues were generally shunned; in the counties and populous boroughs they had no chance; even the universities turned their backs upon them as apostates to toryism; they could hardly find seats even in the nomination boroughs. The state of national feeling is shown by the return of Mr. Brougham for Yorkshire, and Mr. Hume for Middlesex; for it was a saying in the days of Charles James Fox, that “these two counties rule all England.”\*

The new parliament met November 2nd, and was opened by an unpopular royal speech. It regretted the state of affairs in the Low Countries; lamented the destruction of machinery, and the recent fires occasioned by incendiaries, and intimated a determination to punish outrage, disorder, and sedition. It said nothing about parliamentary or other reforms, which was generally expected, and public disappointment was aggravated by the declaration of the prime minister. Sensible, from the results of the elections, that the end of his ministerial career was approaching, he seemed disposed to hasten it by his own violence, and, in the discussion on the address, boldly affirmed that reform was unnecessary, and that while he continued at the head of the government no measure of that character should be introduced. In the existing state of political feeling, the effect was electric, and in the metropolis the excitement was such that a complimentary visit, intended to be paid in the city, on lord mayor’s-day, by their majesties, was postponed, from an apprehension of popular commotion. All that had been previously surmised of the duke’s unfitness for civil government seemed orally confirmed by himself, and, on the 15th, he was formally deposed, in the accustomed way, by a majority of the house of commons voting against him. Next day brought the welcome tidings of his resignation.

The resignation of the Wellington ministry terminated the executive supremacy of the **TORIES**. Divisions among themselves, and reluctant and unavoidable concessions to the popular demands, had portended, during the last thirteen years, the decline of their exclusive authority. With very short intermissions, they had exercised the government of the country since the accession of George the Third; during that long term every branch of administration had become saturated with their maxims and adherents; and nothing, save a concurrence of favourable circumstances, and a necessity palpable and urgent, would have been adequate to dislodge a power so firmly rooted and widely ramified. But public institutions imperiously required the corrective of new principles. The dilapidating effects of time

\* *Life of William Wilberforce, by his Sons, ii., 132.*



and neglect had become apparent in the primary, as well as secondary departments of administration. Inequalities and abuses were not more rife in the church and public offices than in the courts of law and great corporations of the kingdom. Under a pertinacious system of non-inquiry and non-reform, the gangrene had spread through the entire frame, and a new anatomy of parts, not less than new blood, had become essential to a perfect regeneration of the body politic.

The most carious part of the system was unquestionably the representative. Engrossed by the more pressing dangers of popery and arbitrary power, this had been left untouched at the revolution of 1688. Time had augmented its deformities, and shown more glaringly the disseverance of property and intelligence from political power and responsibility, till at length it had degenerated into a mere mockery, obvious to the minds of all men by the ludicrous contrast of Old Sarum and Gatton with representatives—Birmingham and Manchester without a voice. By nomination-boroughs, by close corporations, and by the peculiarities of the county franchise, only one interest was substantially incorporated in the legislature. Land was omnipotent; commerce, manufactures, shipping; all that constituted the pride, distinction, and glory of the realm, were dumb, or only partially and stealthily heard, like something guilty or illegitimate, from a few stray organs, or the less recognised channels of the public press, and popular assemblages in the open air. An oligarchy ruled, and it is needless to say that the laws it made, the measures it supported, and those it frustrated, savoured of the character, the prejudices, and interests of the law-makers.

No problem in Euclid had been better demonstrated than the iniquities of parliamentary elections and representation. They had ceased to be reasoned upon, and their defence had become a mere thesis for wits and rhetoricians to display their ingenious sophistry. Just half a century had elapsed since reform was on the point of being achieved by a national movement, arrested only by the *No Popery* riots of lord George Gordon. It was again postponed till the tempest of the French revolution had swept by, but it was never abandoned; it was only laid aside—its efficacy was known—its value appreciated, but, like something sacred, it was kept back till a period of tranquillity, or till favourable circumstances, like those indicated above, insured for it a triumphant reception. It had always been looked upon, by patriotic and enlightened men, not blinded by selfishness, ambition, or morbid refinement, as the ark, the wholesome corrective of the constitution; and sir George Savile, Wyville, William Pitt, Charles Grey, sir Francis Burdett, major Cartwright, Brande, Lambton, and lord John Russell, are some of the distinguished names who successively took charge of the state elixir, till it was finally accepted and applied by a beneficent and puissant monarch.

Besides the concurring and favourable circumstances arising from the co-operation of king, ministers, and people, in one direction, animated and impelled in their course by the excitement of the continental revolutions; there were others that helped to weaken opposition to constitutional changes, while, at the same time, they produced a more perfect unanimity and force among those classes who had the wish and the power to effect them. These were the total absence, or at least abeyance, of the wild and impracticable theories of social and political reform, which had agitated the country during the five years subsequent to the peace. Neither property, nor the church, nor the constitution, was felt to be endangered by the progress of reform.

under its present auspices. The political effervescence that prevailed from 1816 to 1821 had entirely subsided; the advocates of universal suffrage and annual parliaments had met with so little encouragement that they had ceased to petition the legislature; and the course was now free to the advancement of more moderate and feasible claims, supported by the intelligence and proprietary of the kingdom.\*

The ministry of earl Grey was formed in November, 1830. Public opinion imperatively marshalled the way, and fortunately there was no wish, certainly no intention, of diverging into any bye-path. Those members of the cabinet who had not, like the head of the government, always been reformers, were converted, or acquiesced under the pressure of existing circumstances. The king himself consented to the introduction of a measure of reform; on this condition office had been accepted by his majesty's new advisers, who declared, immediately on taking the reins of power, the terms of their intended administration to be peace abroad, reform and retrenchment at home.

These pledges the whigs faithfully redeemed, in a spirit of wisdom, firmness, and patriotism. As respects their first and greatest measure, that of PARLIAMENTARY REFORM, on which the heart of the nation was fixed, they might have tried illusive arts—have sought delay—attempted, and perhaps temporarily succeeded, in palming on the community a much less efficient measure than that they actually introduced and triumphantly consummated. But it would have been no resting-place; this they foresaw, and wisely shunned both delusion and procrastination. They applied themselves directly to the removal of the public malady, which they correctly understood, grappled with it, and like bold and skilful physicians, cut out the cancer that had for ages preyed on the vitals of the constitution, and took all the precautions they could, commensurate with public intelligence and their own power, to guard against its re-production.

Their first aim was to augment popular control, conformably to the altered disposition in society of wealth and knowledge, and by divesting the government of its irresponsible action, render the oligarchial interests, heretofore predominant in the state, subordinate to those of the common weal. In pursuit of this organic change, they proceeded neither wildly, rashly, nor selfishly. No greater disturbance was given to existing institutions; no greater violence committed on existing interests, than was essential to the general security; by which means the alarms of the timid were allayed, and the demands of the moderate and rational satisfied. They sought to reform within, not without, the pale of the constitution. In this spirit the ballot, which was included in the first draft of the reform bill, was rejected as extraneous, and inapplicable to the evils complained of—which were the nomination boroughs—non-representation of the large towns—inequalities in the elective franchise—and the delay, expense, and corruption of elections.†

\* So completely out of heart and hope were the ultra-radicals that parliament would reform itself, that of late years they had ceased to petition for it. In the year 1821 nineteen petitions were presented in favour of reform; in the year 1822 the number was reduced to twelve; in the year 1823 the number was twenty-nine; in the year 1824 there was no petition at all in favour of reform. The same was the case in the years 1825, 1826, 1827, and 1829. In the session of 1828 there were fourteen.—(*Mr. Croker's Speech, House of Commons, March 1, 1831.*)

† The preparation of the first draft of the Reform Bill was intrusted by earl Grey to lord Durham, who was assisted by the advice of three of his colleagues, lord John Russell, sir James Graham, and lord Duncannon.—(*Earl Durham's Speech, Gateshead, October 23, 1833.*)



That the scheme of the Reform Ministers was bold and honest, as well as discreet; that it was proportioned to the emergency; or, if defective, that they shared its errors, in common with the people, is shown by the well-known fact, that its first introduction was hailed with one unanimous burst from reformers of all classes, of surprise, gratitude, and thankfulness; and that almost the entire nation seemed ready, at one period of its jeopardy, to peril its existence in the carrying of "the bill, the whole bill, and nothing but the bill;" while on the other hand, the tories, those whose career of misrule it was intended to arrest, and for ever foreclose, stood aghast at its boldness—its uprooting, subversive reality; and, forgetting their divisions, they at once united, as against a common enemy that threatened now and for ever their extinction in name, authority, and spoliative rapacity.

Under such political aspects was the REFORM BILL introduced and accepted by the community. It was first brought forward in the house of commons, by lord John Russell, March 1st, 1831. So great had been the popular excitement pending the general election of the preceding year, that the second reading was carried by a majority of ONE, in a parliament chosen under the auspices of the Wellington administration. But on the 20th April, general Gascoigne carried his amendment on the clause of the ministerial proposition, reducing the numbers of the house by a majority of eight.

Two days after, the parliament was dissolved in a speech, in which the king stated, that the appeal about to be made to the people had been resolved upon, expressly with the view of ascertaining their sense as to the proposed alteration in the representation. The general election took place in May, and the new parliament met on the 14th June. On the 24th, the second Reform Bill was introduced; and on the 4th of July, after a debate of three nights, the second reading was carried by a majority of 136; the motion having been supported by 367 members, and opposed by 231. At half-past six on the morning of the 8th October, after a debate of five nights, this bill was thrown out, on the second reading in the Lords, by a majority of 199 to 158. On the 20th, parliament was prorogued, and was not again called together till the 6th December. The year, however, which had already been so busy and eventful, did not close till the great measure, in the discussion of which so much of it had been spent, was again before the legislature.

The third Reform Bill was introduced into the Commons on the 12th December, and read a second time by a majority of exactly two to one, on the 17th. Having, however, been detained nearly two months in committee, it did not leave the Commons till the 19th March, 1832, when the third reading was carried by a majority of 355 to 239. At seven o'clock on the morning of the 14th April, after a debate of four days, it was read a second time in the house of lords, and carried by a majority of 9, the numbers being 184 in its favour, and 175 against it. On the 7th May, however, the day on which parliament re-assembled after the Easter recess, the motion proposed by lord Lyndhurst—to postpone the consideration of the disfranchising clauses of the bill till the enfranchising clauses had been discussed—was carried against ministers, by a majority of 151 to 116. As this was considered the first of a series of obstructions, dexterously intended by the learned lord to delay and mutilate, if not destroy the national scheme, the ministers adopted at the instant a firm and resolute course. On the 9th, earl Grey announced in the lords, and viscount Althorp in the commons,

that ministers had resigned. A week of terrific agitation followed ; but on this it is unnecessary to dwell, as it must still be fresh in general recollection, and is fully described in the *Chronicle*.\*

It may be here proper to observe, that from the first meeting of parliament the general impression had been, that ministers were in possession of the royal assent to an augmentation of the peerage, in case they could not otherwise carry the bill through the upper house. It now appeared such assent had neither been obtained nor sought, and in consequence, the popular disappointment was great, though premature, and in part unreasonable. Ministers had resolved not to transgress the limits of the constitution, nor even to resort to the extreme measure which the constitution allowed, without urgent and unavoidable necessity.

After their resignation, the king sent for lord Lyndhurst, who communicated with the duke of Wellington and sir Robert Peel. Although his majesty sought new councillors, it is due to his memory distinctly to record, that he sought them solely with the view of surmounting, with less violence, the obstacle that had arisen in the way of reform ; but with an unflinching determination that "an extensive reform" should be effected. Under this limitation lord Lyndhurst received his commission. The duke of Wellington, from motives of loyalty, as he himself explained them,\* and in chivalrous defiance of his recent anti-reform declaration, appeared disposed to lend himself to the royal emergency ; but sir Robert Peel was more untractable. He had strenuously opposed the reform bill from its first introduction : he had no hope of modifying the bill to his own satisfaction, so as to meet the approval of the existing majority of the commons against him ; therefore, out of regard to his own consistency, he declined, though tempted with the premiership, to co-operate with the duke in any attempt to form a ministry on the basis the king had prescribed. Of course the design of a new administration was given up, and the former ministers recalled.

On the 18th of May, earl Grey intimated that himself and colleagues were again in office. He also intimated that he had returned to power on the condition, and with an assurance from the king, that, so far as it depended on his majesty, his co-operative aid to carry the reform bill should not be wanting. Both the king and his ministers had manifested a laudable reluctance to resort to the extreme measure of a sudden and enormous addition to the peerage ; but all other means the constitution pointed out had been tried and found insufficient. The people had been appealed to by a dissolution of parliament ; a large majority of their representatives had passed the bill, the king was favourable to it, an attempt to form an anti-reform ministry had miscarried ; only one obdurate branch of the legislature withstood the aggregate will : therefore now was the juncture, now was the necessity, in order to carry on the government of the country, when the prerogative of the crown ought and might be legitimately called into action. Without this exercise of the regal power, which, like Goliath's sword ought never to be brought forward, save on great and needful occasion, the constitution would have been in abeyance ; the necessary business of the executive impeded ; and the internal peace of the empire endangered. In lieu of a government of king, lords, and commons, it would have degenerated into a government of lords alone, in defiance of the two other estates of the realm, and the loudly, and almost unanimously-expressed voice of the people.

\* See Resignation of ministers, May 9, 1832.

† House of Lords, May 17, 1832.



The king's resolve having become known, its execution was rendered unnecessary. Rather than have their lustre diminished, and collective power diluted by an addition of about one hundred to their number, the refractory peers, in obedience to the royal wish, conveyed to them in a circular,\* absented themselves from the house, and the reform bill was carried, in silence and solitude, through its remaining stages, encountering a merely formal opposition. On the 4th June it was read a third time and passed by a majority of 106 to 22. On the 7th, it received the royal assent. The Scotch and Irish Bills and the Boundaries Bill were, in like manner, soon after enacted into laws. On the 16th August the parliament was prorogued, and did not again meet. It was dissolved on the 3d December; and the remainder of that month was occupied in the first general election under the new system of representation.

As the changes effected by the reform acts, and the character of the first parliament elected under them have been described, in their chronological place,† we shall here only summarily indicate the constitutional progress of the government, and its successive epochs, from the commencement of the present history, and already more fully noticed in our antecedent prefatory discourses, down to the passing of the great parliamentary character of the Reform Ministry.

The devolution and expansion of political power have been from the king to the people. Divesting ourselves of the illusions of antiquity, that would assume a perfection of civil polity incompatible with an untutored age, it is impossible to conceal that the English government, for a long period, was a simple despotism, occasionally and irregularly limited in the exercise, by the interference of the nobility and clergy. The first decided and regular approach to constitutional rule was the regal grant of Magna Charta. It defined the immunities of the crown and aristocracy, and recognized, by a public instrument that could always be appealed to, general principles of equity, before unknown or unpractised; and though limited in the first instance in their application to the privileged orders, by whom they had been sanctioned and obtained, they came to be gradually applied to other classes, and ultimately to the entire community by whom they were claimed.

The civil wars of the commonwealth do not appear to have achieved any abiding result for the people. The commons had risen into affluence and intelligence; they were powerful enough to wage a successful war against the monarch, depose him, and set him aside, along with the church and house of lords; but owing to divisions and theological disputes among themselves, or rather, perhaps, to the political inexperience that rashly led them to make greater changes than could be safely attempted or permanently maintained, they failed to circumscribe the prerogatives against which they had rebelled, by new and stable constitutional barriers. In consequence of this abortive issue the Restoration was dexterously, and almost, under the circumstances, necessarily effected without conditions; the old arbitrary powers of the crown remained, and the exercise of them was only for a time checked through the salutary terror impressed on the executive by a recent and successful example of popular resistance.

By the revolution of 1688, absolutism, and even the pretensions to it, were for ever laid prostrate. William III. was the elected king of the nation; his prerogatives were strictly defined by the Bill of Rights, and

\* See *May* 9, 1832.

† See *June* 7, 1832; and *Jan.* 1, 1833.

the practice of the constitution was more nearly assimilated to the theory. As the aristocratic order, lay and ecclesiastical, had by their vigorous and well-concerted exertions chiefly effected the change of dynasty, they naturally claimed, and certainly appropriated its chief and immediate benefits. In lieu of regal, the government became parliamentary; or, in consequence of the small number among whom parliamentary power was divided, oligarchical. The Middle Classes had continued to increase in social importance, but were still restricted to the exercise of an indirect influence on public affairs through the medium of the Press and their riches, aided by a fragment of representation in the house of commons. The narrow basis of the government gave a narrow direction to the objects of state policy. National interests were disregarded or misunderstood, and the interests of the two factions, into which the Oligarchy was divided, were chiefly considered. Domestic abuses that constituted their strength and profit were allowed to accumulate, or if disturbed it was only for party purposes, which answered, they were again left to increase and multiply. Abroad a policy was pursued hurtful and expensive to the people. Its leading features were the ambition or cupidity of colonial acquisitions that were burdensome or embarrassing to the nation; continental wars and entangling alliances for trifling, contradictory, or reprehensible objects; the perpetuation of national rivalries and antipathies; the maintenance of an imaginary balance of power among the European states; the dictation of the order of succession to foreign thrones, and the form of their internal administration. Questions of closer national interest, of commerce, navigation, and industrial prosperity were only incidentally noticed, and inadequately appreciated. External, not internal, policy was the primary object of statesmen, the grand topic of parliamentary eloquence and intrigue, the pivot upon which the strength or weakness, the permanence or dissolution of a whig or tory administration revolved.\*

\* The Parliamentary Debates, of which we have now such a copious and authentic record, offer an ample field for culling the political notions—for amidst the animosities and confusion of party they had rarely the constancy or generalization of principles—of the leading statesmen of the Georgian era. In debating the commercial treaty with France in 1786, Mr. Fox argued that "France was the natural political enemy of Great Britain"—(*Foreign Quarterly Review*, xxxvii. 171). The Corinthian politicians were more conversant with the philippics of Demosthenes or the orations of Cicero, than with the writings of Mr. Locke, Steuart, Hume, or Adam Smith. Mr. Pitt's ideas on an important question of domestic polity afford a singular contrast to prevailing sentiments (see Feb. 12, 1796). As parliament, not the court, was the arena on which the prize of government was contended for, ability to shine in debate was chiefly cultivated. It drew forth a brilliant constellation of rhetoricians—cadets of noble families, lawyers, and literary adventurers—whose chief accomplishment in statesmanship was oratory. "From the time" (says the *Edinburgh Review*, cxxxvii. 159) "of Charles II. down to our own days, a different species of talent, parliamentary talent, has been the most valuable of all the qualifications of an English statesman. It has stood in the place of all other acquirements. It has covered ignorance, weakness, rashness, the most fatal mal-administration. A great negotiator is nothing when compared with a great debater, and a minister who can make a successful speech need trouble himself little about an unsuccessful expedition. This is the talent that has made judges without law, and diplomatists without French,—which has sent to the admiralty men who did not know the stern of a ship from her bowsprit, and to the India board men who did not know the difference between a rupee and a pagoda,—which made a foreign secretary of Mr. Pitt, who, as George II. said, had never opened Vattel, and which was very near making a chancellor of the exchequer of Mr. Sheridan, who could not work a sum in long division." It did make a chancellor of the exchequer of Mr. Canning, hardly a less miracle than Sheridan's promotion would have been. But the age of tropes has yielded to the age of utility! Sheridan was the last example in the senate, and Erskine, who was a good specimen in *English*, of Irish eloquence, the last at the bar,



The general Peace gave a new direction to legislation. By the fortunate issue of the struggle against Napoleon's ambition the Tories became so firmly rooted in authority that the Whigs gave up all hope of supplanting them, and, leaving the barren pursuit of power, they directed attention to commercial, educational, financial, legal, and juridical ameliorations. Social questions slowly acquired an interest beyond that of political conflicts. In this new field a knowledge of the principles of science was more important than cleverness in debate. The style of parliamentary oratory necessarily underwent a contemporary change—became less ornamental and figurative—more logical and statistical—and the new direction given to it has received a further impulse from the great but prosaic interests called into legislative existence by the Reform Acts,—the last and most triumphant epoch in the progress of the British constitution.

Statesmen, like philosophers, must be judged by the standard of their own time, not by that of a future age. For the period, and under the circumstances, the Reform Bill was a just, comprehensive, and energetic conception. For names it substituted realities; for prescriptive rights that had become hurtful or dead, it created living interests. All may have not been made partakers of its benefits, but all have been made easily and equally eligible to them: there is no interdict. Its leading feature is a circumscription of aristocratic power, which had become degenerate, by its transfusion into the democracy, which had risen into competence and relative supremacy. Legislative authority is now vested in the nation, and the nation, when it thinks fit, can constitutionally exercise it. The difference in the action of Public Opinion, before and after the Reform Bill, is great and distinctive. It was always potent; it triumphed over the Stuarts; at the Orange revolution of 1688 it was present; it often controlled the factions under the Georges, and even succeeded in returning a reform parliament under a Wellington ministry. But its impulses were irregular; too sudden or dilatory; often violent or even revolutionary; rarely deliberative, and always illegitimate. These defects have been remedied by the parliamentary charter, which has established a safe and recognized channel for the conveyance of the public sentiment. No interest is now—though perhaps not in just proportion—without its representative organ. In tranquil times, in the absence of gross abuse, or misgovernment, these organs may be mute, relaxed, and quiescent: they may be like river-beds in summer, empty, dry, and inert; but let oppression stalk forth, or imbecility be apparent in rulers, and their latent powers become manifest, they are instantly strung, and peal with a warning voice that no minister, however reckless and unprincipled, would dare to disregard.

These different powers of the constitution, under different circumstances, will give an oscillating ascendancy to political parties. In periods of prosperity, when men are disposed to contentment under the established order, the prevailing tendency will be to Conservatism; in periods of distress or misrule to Whiggism, or, according to the intensity of the popular orgasm, to Radicalism. In the absence of any public emergency, the merit as well as the necessity of private sacrifices is diminished; and those not influenced by high principles follow their interests or inclination. It will thus happen that the Tories, in ordinary times, will gather strength in the towns, where the mass of the constituency has become indifferent to the exercise of the elective franchise, as well as in the counties, where their influence must always be great from territorial possessions, local association, and the indisposition to change peculiar to the rural classes. Against

the temporary growth of the authority of their opponents, the Whigs, in framing the Reform Bill, took no selfish precautions. They seem, indeed, to have favoured it; and some of the alterations admitted into the original scheme experience soon showed not to be improvements. The maintenance of the full number of 658 members, and the very considerable increase in the county representation, at the expense of the boroughs, were decidedly in favour of the Tories. The tax and rate-paying clauses operate in the same direction. The last in particular, in the absence of political excitement, effect an extensive disfranchisement of their supporters; while the Conservatives continue undiminished or are augmented by defections from their ranks. Ministers, however, are not to blame for the tenant-at-will clause; they opposed that interpolation, which was carried against them by a section of Radicals, headed by Mr. Hume, joining the Tories.

Notwithstanding the points in favour of the Tories, there is little likelihood of their obtaining a permanent ascendancy. It can only happen when no reforms are needed, or the people are indifferent to them, or the public mind is not agreed or matured on their expediency, that the torpor of conservatism can overpower the nation. In all other cases the progressive principle will be in action; nor is there any power remaining, either in the crown or the house of lords, long to resist its onward movement. Lord Coke said, "that seldom or ever any good measure which had once been entered on the Journals, though it miscarried at first, was wholly lost to the nation." If this were true under the old system, it is much more likely to be realized under the new. But half a century or so, as in the case of the Test and Corporation Acts, African Slave Bill, or the Catholic Relief Bill, is too long to wait for just and sound legislation; and it would certainly now be a hazardous experiment on the national patience for the lords to delay five in lieu of fifty years public measures carried by a large majority of the commons, supported by the population of the metropolis, the municipal towns, and the present enlarged constituency.

The chief excellence of the new representation is that we have tried to explain, namely, its alternate actions, by which rest as well as efficient expression is given to the public sentiment. It is likely future changes will be peaceably as well as deliberately and constitutionally effected. The new machinery telegraphs all the great national impulses, and seems so contrived as safely to bear, without snapping, any strain to which it may be subjected by the outward pressure. One of its greatest and most easily remedied defects is, that its movements are too slow, by which the communication of feeling between the representative and constituent bodies may be too long suspended. Seven years are too protracted a term for the natural duration of parliament. There is less reason for this now that general elections have been rendered so quiet, economical, and expeditious. A shorter period is demanded from the altered state of society—its increased intellectual activity through the agency of the press and popular discussion, by which changes of opinion are constantly being effected with railroad despatch, and requiring to be communicated with corresponding celerity and force to the legislature.

Apart from the danger of disseverance of feeling between the people and parliament, from its septennial duration, the new representation, on its first trial may be pronounced to have been successful. It fully answered the most trying test of social institutions, that of practical usefulness in accordance with the national sentiment. As might be expected, the first Reformed Parliament consisted of a vast majority of those by whom it had been



created, and was composed of two-thirds whigs, and the remainder in about equal portions of tories and radicals.\* It began its labours by adopting salutary regulations for improving and facilitating the modes of transacting parliamentary business. A session of splendid legislation followed, unsurpassed in justice, utility, and practical wisdom by that of any representative assembly on record. There was a manifest indisposition to entertain questions involving further organic changes, especially as those under which the commons itself had assembled remained untried; but all the great topics on which public opinion had been expressed and matured were resolutely grappled with, elaborately discussed, and satisfactorily adjusted. As a summary of the important labours of this year has been given in another place, it is sufficient to refer to them.† Ireland, its internal peace and ecclesiastical establishment; the East India Company, the renewal of its charter, the opening of its exclusive trade with China, and the future government of the vast population of Hindostan; the renewal of the charter of the Bank of England, and the connexion of its immunities with the state of banking and the currency; and lastly, the abolition of colonial slavery, with a compensatory grant to the West India proprietary, formed engrossing subjects of parliamentary debate and enactment.

The FOREIGN POLICY of the empire formed an additional subject of interest and discussion. Almost for the first time on record, England and France acted in concert without jealousy or mistrust. Both nations had recently and almost contemporaneously undergone great internal changes; but France, by the election of Louis Philippe, the abolition of the hereditary Peerage, the establishment of popular education, and the doubling of her elective constituency, had outstript England in the race of social improvement and constitutional innovation. In the foreign policy of the two kingdoms there was no divarication; of both the aim was the maintenance of peace among nations; but constitutional themselves, they naturally felt an interest in promoting the establishment of constitutional power in other countries. Acting on this principle the claims of Don Pedro in favour of his daughter were preferred to those of Don Miguel in Portugal; and those of the queen-regent in behalf of her infant by Ferdinand VII. to those of his brother Don Carlos in Spain; but neither government excited the fears of other states by direct interference in behalf of Isabella II. of Spain, or Donna Maria of Portugal.‡ A subject of nearer and deeper interest than the fratricidal contests in the Peninsula was the effecting an amicable divorce between Belgium and Holland, the difficulties of which were augmented by the decided aversion of one of the betrothed parties to a separation. William, Prince of Orange, created by the allied sovereigns in 1815 King of the Netherlands, was naturally and pertinaciously averse to the severance from his crown of the better half of his dominions, and its erection, under prince Leopold, into an independent monarchy. But jealousies and differences of all kinds, religious, political, and civil, coupled with the fact that the Belgic population had actually succeeded in expelling the Dutch authorities from their territory, rendered the compulsory maintenance of the union impolitic and, perhaps, impracticable.§ At first England, France, and Russia jointly interposed their good offices; they succeeded in enforcing a suspension of hostilities, and prescribed the terms of future peace and separation between the belligerents. In these terms the Dutch king refused his concurrence, and Russia

\* See Jan. 1, 1833.

† See A.D. 1833, July 28, Sept. 29.

‡ See Aug. 29, 1833.

§ See A.D. 1830, Aug. 25, Sept. 21.

declining to act coercively against him, the executive task of enforcing submission by arms devolved on France and England. Novel events followed. The combined English and French fleets, so often hostilely arrayed against each other, peaceably mingled their flags in the Channel; the Scheldt was blockaded, and an embargo laid on Dutch ships in British ports; a French army under Marshal Gerard rapidly penetrated to Antwerp, and, after a brisk bombardment of the citadel, that almost entombed its brave defender, Chassé, in a storm of shells and cannon-balls, they quietly, and without the co-operation of the Belgians, put them in possession of the disputed fortress, which they themselves would perhaps have been unable to conquer, and then again withdrew into the French territory. These form examples of disinterested mediation, of which there are few instances in the history of European diplomacy. Austria, Russia, and Prussia beheld them with watchfulness, and the latter power assembled a large army on the frontier; but neither France nor England being actuated by ambitious impulses, the great object of intervention—the maintenance of the peace of Europe—was secured. The fall of Antwerp, however, did not terminate all differences in the Low Countries; years elapsed before the 24 Articles of separation agreed upon by the London Conference relative to the apportionment of the public debt of Holland and Belgium, and the province of Limburg and the duchy of Luxemburg, which the Belgians coveted, with the concurrence of the population of the disputed territories, as a portion of their new kingdom, were acquiesced in by both parties.

In the same year the aspect of affairs in the East claimed the friendly interference of France and England. A new and crafty power had arisen in that quarter which threatened the entire extinction of the Ottoman empire. The victorious armies of Mehemet Ali, the rebel viceroy of Egypt, commanded by his son Ibrahim, had conquered the whole of Syria, and, after traversing Asia Minor and defeating, in the great battle of Konieh, the Turkish forces under the grand vizier, had almost reached the shores of the Bosphorus. Weakened by internal reforms, which the Turkish aristocracy opposed and the multitude, to whose benefit they tended, did not appreciate, Greece and the Archipelago, Egypt and Algiers, severed from his dominions, and exhausted from the late unsuccessful war with Russia, the Sultan Mahmoud was unable to stand in open field against the Egyptian invaders. In this extremity he applied for assistance to the court of St. Petersburg, the oldest and most dangerous enemy of the Porte. Russia promptly listened to this overture, the leading object of her policy, from the reign of the ambitious Catherine, being to establish her authority in the ancient Byzantium; and, in the first months of 1833, her ships were in motion on the Black Sea, and her armies on the Pruth directed towards the Turkish capital. The European powers became alarmed at these movements; France despatched Admiral Roussin to Constantinople, and the ministers of England and Austria co-operated with the French ambassador in efforts to dissuade the Sultan from his perilous connexion with the emperor Nicholas. They offered to try to stop the march of Ibrahim, and proposed terms of peace to Mehemet Ali, which the pasha rejected, and ordered the advance of his army. Meanwhile a second squadron of Russians anchored in the Bosphorus with numerous troops on board. The Sultan wavered; he was in a dilemma, and had only to choose between accepting the terms demanded by his own vassal, or having his capital garrisoned or, at least, defended by Russian auxiliaries. He adopted the former as the less evil, and Ibrahim retraced his steps towards



the passes of Mount Taurus. The Russians, however, continued to linger in the vicinity of Constantinople till the summer; the combined English and French fleets cruising in the Mediterranean to watch their motions; and it was only after the treaty of Unkiar Skelessi had been concluded with the Porte\* that the Czar withdrew his armaments from the Bosphorus. Had it not been for the intervention of Britain and France, it is probable the Russians would have occupied Constantinople by degrees, and, under various pretexts, gradually established an authority there hardly less dictatorial than that exercised in the unfortunate capital of Poland. Such an extension of the sway of an overgrown empire, whose despotic institutions are dangerous to civilization, and afford no guarantee of future policy, and which, for the last century, has shown itself actuated by that restless thirst for territorial aggrandizement peculiar to a semi-barbarous state, would have been an European calamity.

Fortunately, the might of Russia is more defensive than aggressive, and there appears little ground for apprehension from any outbreak of adventurous ambition in her sovereigns. In defence she has always shown herself invincible; in aggressive power she is inferior to neighbouring states. It is only towards the East, to which she first opened a passage across the Balkan in 1829, that she finds a penetrable line of resistance; on the west she is confined by the impassable military barrier presented by Austria, Prussia, and the German states; on the ocean, England is the trusty gaoler of the North, and, holding the keys of the Baltic and the Euxine by her naval superiority, she can, by blockading the Cattegat and the Dardanelles, when the czar evinces signs of restlessness or a disposition to break his bounds, stop all egress, offensive or commercial, from his vast interior.

Reposing on these securities, all fear of Russian intrigue and Russian ambition vanishes. The treaty of Unkiar Skelessi formed a natural subject of jealousy with the European courts, especially the separate article, by which the Porte engaged at the instance of Russia to close the strait of the Dardanelles against "any foreign vessel of war." But the English ministry have not been unmindful of any advantage the emperor Nicholas might have secured by this treaty; and at a period subsequent to that under notice, a convention of commerce and navigation was concluded with the Porte, highly conducive to the mercantile interests of Britain, and which places British subjects and British ships on a footing of equality with the most favoured nation with which the Sultan is in alliance.†

The commencement of the domestic history of 1834 is remarkable for the altered tone assumed by the Reform Ministry, who began to feel inconvenienced by the indefinite continuance of that pressure without which had raised them into and mainly supported them in the exercise of authority. The popular storm had swept away the larger masses of abuse, and it was now desirable that the executive and the legislative should subside into and move with less disturbance in their natural channels. The removal of the more palpable evils had been effected, but it was a nicer and more difficult question to deal with those involving complicated and more

\* See *July 8, 1833.*

† Convention of Balta-Liman, Aug. 16, 1838, inserted in the London Gazette, Dec. 18, 1838. This convention, by which English merchandise will be admitted into Turkey at lower and fixed rates of duty, coupled with the treaty concluded with Austria, July 3, 1838, and by which the navigation of the Danube is opened to British merchants, attest the ability of our foreign diplomacy, and its watchfulness to promote the commercial interests of the empire.

equally-balanced interests, and respecting which the general opinion was not so unanimous. To enter safely upon these, time, caution, and deliberation were requisite; and such essentials could hardly be reckoned upon so long as the government continued to be hurried forward by an external agency more remarkable for force than a just appreciation of the obstacles to be surmounted. Accordingly ministers sought to separate themselves from the impatient and irregular auxiliaries with whom they had heretofore kept up a friendly intercourse, if not actually concluded a defensive alliance. The tories had been defeated if not humbled, and the Indian war-whoop was no longer requisite to alarm them into further concessions. Downing-street, in consequence, became less accessible to the inroads of the leaders of political unions and parochial deputations; and even the representative organs of the Dissenters were given to understand that though their civil grievances would be listened to and redressed, there existed a firm determination not to countenance any attack, if such were intended, on the established Church.

With these indications the parliamentary session began in February. In May its proceedings were interrupted by divisions in the cabinet. These arose out of the question of the appropriation of the surplus revenues of the Irish church, whether to ecclesiastical or secular purposes. The difficulty was prospective and contingent. There was no surplus to appropriate; nor was it certainly known that there ever would, or to what amount. Government did not seek its agitation; it was unnecessary to the progress of their measures; but a large party in the house of commons, who thought a reform of the Irish church would be incomplete or valueless unless accompanied with a new disposition of its redundant wealth, determined to draw forth an anticipatory parliamentary declaration in its favour. This was the object of the celebrated resolution, moved by Mr. Ward, May 27th. It was supported by a majority of the commons, and a majority of the ministry; but a minority of the cabinet, who dissented from its principle, and held that ecclesiastical property could only be justly applied to ecclesiastical purposes, finding themselves unable to acquiesce in the ministerial basis adopted by their colleagues, withdrew from the administration.

The rupture with Mr. Stanley and sir James Graham, the earl of Ripon and the duke of Richmond, was speedily followed by another, which grew out of the renewal of the Irish Coercion Bill, and involved in its issues the retirement of the noble premier himself. Earl Grey had repeatedly sought to retire in the preceding year, but urged by his colleagues he had been prevailed upon to continue in office. All the pledges he had given at the commencement of his patriotic ministry had been firmly and faithfully, and beyond the public expectation redeemed. Economy in the public expenditure, and improvements in the public offices, had been resolutely promoted. The peace of Europe had been preserved without a compromise of national honour; while at the same time the cause of constitutional liberty had been sought to be advanced in the Peninsula by the conclusion of the Quadruple Alliance with France, Spain, and Portugal. Under his auspices the great question of Parliamentary Reform had been carried; he had commenced life with the advocacy of an amendment of the representation; and this his first wish being realized, and having begun to feel the infirmities of age, it was natural that his lordship should seize the first opportunity to withdraw from the toils and responsibility of government.

Lord Althorp, who had also resigned, having consented to resume the chancellorship of the exchequer, the Reform Ministry was continued, under the premiership of viscount Melbourne, as first lord of the treasury.



Although public business had been delayed by ministerial changes, the second session of the Reformed Parliament, like the first, was distinguished by important legislation. The establishment of the Central Criminal Court, by providing more frequent gaol deliveries, and extending the local jurisdiction of the Old Bailey Court, effected great improvements in the criminal administration of the metropolis and adjoining counties.\* An undertaking of still greater difficulty, with which the legislature energetically grappled, was an attempt to amend the administration of the POOR LAWS. In dealing with an old system of domestic polity, parliament evinced no hesitation in departing from established usages and maxims; but how successfully can only be ascertained by a longer term of experience of the moral and social results of the new law than is embraced by the remaining portion of our history.

Numerous errors had been engrafted on the celebrated statute of queen Elizabeth, partly by the legislature itself, and partly by its parochial and magisterial administrators. These had been an anxious subject of inquiry ever since the Peace, and had been sought to be met by the institution of assistant overseers, select vestries, and other remedial enactments. It was not the principle of a compulsory assessment for the relief of the indigence inseparable from society that appeared so objectionable, as its corrupt, wasteful, and injudicious disbursement. In Liverpool, Manchester, Leeds, and some of the largest parishes of the metropolis, there had already been strenuous efforts made to reform or avert the deterioration of their pauper administration; and where this vigilance and intelligence had been exercised by individuals, they had been found sufficient, even under the old laws, either to amend or prevent the inroad of glaring abuses.

These, however, were exceptions to the general state of the kingdom, especially in the agricultural districts, and the interference of parliament had become necessary. Wages had come to be partly paid out of the poor-rates; no efficient test was applied to distinguish between real and fictitious distress; the rights of settlement were conflicting and productive of expensive litigation; the size of parishes was unequal, and unsuited to an economical and efficient administration; the powers of magistrates were not correctly defined, and were often injudiciously exercised; the Bastardy Laws were supposed to encourage incontinency in females, and offer an inducement to perjury; owing to the equality of suffrage in the rate-payers, the management of the poor frequently fell into the hands of incompetent or unprincipled persons, who perverted their authority to jobbing and selfish purposes: under the operation of these causes the poor-rates had increased in amount without being proportionately beneficial to the poor, who, it was alleged, had been demoralized, rendered idle, refractory, and discontented, by the mal-administration of laws intended solely for their relief and advantage. As a remedy for these manifold evils a more centralized power was deemed expedient, and a board of three commissioners was appointed for five years, invested with almost unlimited authority to reform and superintend the administration of the poor-laws in England and Wales.

It was not exclusively the consideration of benefiting the poor, but also themselves, that induced the legislature to apply with zeal and extraordinary unanimity to a reform of the poor-laws. It was sought as an effective mode of relieving agricultural distress, the existence of which had been

\* This is only one of many judicial improvements introduced of late years. Of sixty legal defects mentioned by Mr. Brougham, in his celebrated speech, Feb. 7, 1823, fifty-five have in whole, or in part, been removed. It has proved the most useful, as it was the most remarkable oration ever delivered in parliament.

unceasingly pressed on the attention of government.\* All the property classes suffered by the pressure of the poor-assessment, but the landed interest more than any other. Nearly three-fourths of the entire sum yearly levied as poor-rates are paid by the occupiers and owners of the soil. If, therefore, this burden could be reduced to the amount of two or three millions, by a more vigilant economy, or astringent administration, the territorial proprietary would to that extent be benefited.

The New Poor Law, as well as the Corn Law, are parts of the same system, chiefly directed to the support of the landlord's rent, but the general government, by countenancing partial legislation, suffers both in character and influence. It is possible, therefore, that the Central Board of Commissioners will be suffered to expire at the end of the five years for which it has been appointed, or so soon as its task of purification has been completed. The executive power of the state cannot, without obloquy, and certainly not with discrimination, execute the duties of overseers and churchwardens. Its business is not local but general administration; not the restraint of vice and improvidence, but crime; not charity to any, but justice to all; not to dole out eleemosynary aid for the relief of the indigence inseparable from changes in the seasons, and vicissitudes in commerce and agriculture, but to afford protection, without interference, alike to all the industrious orders of the community.

Before the close of the year the ministry was again disorganized. It arose out of the death of earl Spencer, and consequent removal of the chancellor of the exchequer to the house of lords. This change had been foreseen and provided for, but the acceptance by lord Althorp of an office compatible with his peerage, not his withdrawal from the cabinet, was the contingency calculated upon. His lordship had been represented by earl Grey, and considered by his successor, viscount Melbourne, as the main support of the government in the house of commons. Upon these grounds the king concluded that lord Althorp formed so essential an element of the ministry, that they would, in consequence of his retirement, be unable to carry on the government, and they were abruptly dismissed. Rumour also ascribed to the king a dislike of the ministerial plans of ecclesiastical reform. No other abiding reason has been assigned for the dissolution of the Melbourne cabinet. It was a sudden impulse of the royal mind, and appeared to the public more like one of those unexpected revolutions that occur in the palace of a despot than of a constitutional monarch. The leading Tories had no share in producing it, the duke of Wellington not having had any communication with the court for two or three months previously,† and sir R. Peel was absent on a tour in Italy. The Reform Ministry was still strong, though it had lost several of its original members, in the support of a majority of the house of commons, and in the existence of greater unanimity than ever among themselves, on all great public questions.‡

The public excitement occasioned by the dissolution of the ministry was hardly less than that which prevailed in 1831-2. The Reform Acts, and all they had accomplished for the people, and all they were expected to accomplish, were considered imperilled by the return of the Tories to power. It was a renewal of the old struggle for mastery between the Conservatives and Liberals of all denominations; but as its progress and termination—the return of sir R. Peel from Italy—his acceptance of the premiership—his pledges to reform all proved abuses—his appeal to the people by a general

\* Annual Register, lxxvi. 222.

† House of Lords, Feb. 24, 1835.

‡ Lord John Russell's speech at Totnes, Dec. 2, 1834.



election—the coalition of the Whigs and Radicals—his defeat by a majority of the new house of commons—and the restoration of the Melbourne ministry, are detailed in the *Chronicle*, it is only necessary to refer to them under that head. The king, in the first instance, offered the premiership to the duke of Wellington, but he declined the appointment in favour of sir R. Peel. Provisionally his grace accepted the offices of first lord of the treasury and secretary for the home department, and, in the latter capacity, also held the seals of the two other secretaryships. Such a plurality of offices was unusual, but not without precedent, as the earl of Liverpool had once been similarly placed.

The principles on which the PEEL MINISTRY sought to establish itself were not avowedly those of Conservatism, or, if that be different, of Toryism. They were those of their predecessors—submission to the national will, as expressed by a majority of the house of commons. Resistance to reform was not attempted on the basis it used to be offered by the party of Mr. Canning, namely, that any the least concession to the popular demands is pregnant with inappreciable danger, which can never be submitted to as an amendment, but only as a diversion from more fundamental changes in the Constitution. Sir R. Peel solicited the confidence of the country on the ground that he was friendly to change, to improvement—had given proofs of it by his currency bill, and reform of the criminal law—and these he tendered in earnest of his future intentions. By the dissolution of parliament the Conservatives obtained an increase of nearly one hundred members, but even this accession of strength left them in a minority of about fifty. The Opposition, however, was in no hurry to remove them by a direct vote of want of confidence. Sir R. Peel was allowed to bring forward his leading measures, which he did with great dispatch and ability. As the ministerial plans for the relief of the Dissenters and the settlement of tithes were liberal and enlightened in their provisions, they met with general favour and concurrence, and all went on harmoniously till Mr. Ward's test came to be applied. This application the Tories could not withstand. Appropriation they deemed unjust, if not sacrilegious; and rather than be partners in the unholy crusade for applying the surplus wealth of the Irish church to the instruction of an indigent population, they resigned their offices.

The battle of the parties having terminated by the restoration in April of the Melbourne ministry, the business of the parliamentary session was seriously entered upon. The judicious bills of sir James Graham for establishing a public registry of merchant-seamen, and for lessening the necessity of impressment, by encouraging voluntary enlistment into the royal navy, were passed into laws. Infringement of patent rights had long been complained of, and an act, framed under the auspices of lord Brougham, was passed, for better securing the interests of patentees in their discoveries and inventions. By another statute the copyright in public lectures was protected. But the most important legislative measure was the bill for the reform of the Municipal Corporations of England and Wales. The Scottish burghs had been regenerated in 1833. In place of self-elected and self-auditing bodies, a local administration was substituted, responsible to the rate-payers, and a provision made for the extension of the system, if desired by the inhabitants, to Birmingham, Manchester, and other unincorporated towns.\*

Another effort at improvement in the internal policy of the empire, which the Legislature evinced a disposition to sanction, and to which its attention

\* See *June* 5th, A.D. 1835.

had been called by the vigilance of Mr. Hume, was the extinction of the ORANGE SOCIETIES, that had too long been the bane of Ireland by hindering the action of an enlightened and impartial course of government, justly due to the vast majority of her population. It was discovered that these intolerant associations, which sought to pervert government into the selfish domination of a faction, had extended their ramifications into Britain and the colonies, and that, under the auspices of the duke of Cumberland, who, regardless of the proper duties of his station, had lent himself, in the capacity of grand-master, to their odious practices, Orange lodges had been introduced into the army, contrary to its discipline, and the express order of the commander-in chief. The inquiries of a parliamentary committee, and the condemnatory resolutions passed by the house of commons, arrested the progress, if they did not entirely extirpate, this disturbing and insidious mischief.

Contemporary events abroad possessed considerable interest. France had been the scene of another political revolution. Almost by an accident she had deposed the elder Bourbon in 1830, and almost by an accident the chief fruits of her heroic struggle were wrested from her in 1835. Louis Philippe was thought by some not to have faithfully redeemed his pledges to the people, and his life was repeatedly, but unsuccessfully, sought by defeated royalists, or disappointed republicans. At length a hireling bravo, named Fieschi, undertook the odious office of assassin. He failed—the king escaped—but many of the royal suite fell victims of the Corsican's deadly contrivance. The sympathies of the French nation were roused. The king had saved them from anarchy and foreign war, and they felt indignant at the repeated attempts upon his life. The moment was favourable to despotic encroachments, and the Broglie ministry seized it. A desperate contest had been waged, for the last five years, between the revolutionary and *juste milieu* parties, when the Fieschi atrocity gave a triumphant victory to the *doctrinaires*. Under the alleged necessity of better securing the monarch's person, and guarding against revolutionary projects, laws were passed by the Chambers curtailing the power of juries, and entirely extinguishing the liberty of the journals. The Parisians, hitherto so jealous of arbitrary power, offered no resistance to the new measures, but acquiesced in them as the price of internal peace, and security from those never-ending plots, and sanguinary insurrections of which both Paris and Lyons had been the theatre since the expulsion of Charles X.\*

This unfortunate issue of the struggle for freedom is not without consolatory accompaniments. It is better that the French should have been parties to the surrender of their liberties than that they should have been wrested from them by superior power. Louis Philippe only holds them *in trust*; they are not alienated, and the trust can be resumed when the nation is so disposed, and the times favourable. In the constitution of the chambers, in the popular diffusion of knowledge, and in the citizen national guard, there are pledges for the future resumption of political freedom—and civil freedom, which is far more important to social happiness, has not been violated. The prevailing disposition of the French is apparent. They are neither royalist nor revolutionary; neither high tory nor ultra-radical. Enlightened by the past, they seek a liberty compatible with order, to avoid extremes, and move along the diagonal line of politics,

\* See A.D. 1835, Aug. 4, Dec. 31.



which is the longest, and by passing through the greatest mass of interests obtains the widest circle of support. This was the system introduced by M. Casimir Perier in 1831, and the experience of the succeeding four years has proved it to be the system most safe and acceptable to the nation.

Besides the political trials and other changes in France, the revolution in the government of Denmark, and the completion of the German Commercial League, form interesting occurrences in the foreign transactions of 1835, and of which notices are given in the *Chronicle* of that year.

Domestic prospects on the opening of 1836 were flattering and auspicious. Agriculture continued to labour under a partial depression, but it was impossible that the unusual prosperity which pervaded manufactures and commerce should not produce a corresponding animation in rural industry. Ireland presented features uncommon in her public history. Agrarian and tithe outrages still occurred, though less frequently and ferociously, but the remarkable fact in her internal progress was the absence of political strife. A conciliatory rule and disposition to do equal justice to all classes were sought to be substituted for factious oppression and exclusion. Catholicism ceased to be a bar practically, as well as legally, to judicial honours and civil trusts. The wise and liberal intentions of the general government were ably seconded by the firm and popular demeanour of the lord lieutenant, and by Mr. O'Connell and other leaders of Ireland, who beheld, in the conduct of ministers, an earnest of progressive amelioration, if not final and conclusive settlement of Irish grievances. Much had already been conceded, and a tranquil confidence existed that the remaining instalments due to a neglected country would be ultimately forthcoming. The successful legislative efforts already made to render the education of the people more liberal, to reform the magistracy, grand juries, constabulary, and police, and to improve internal communications by means of rivers, bridges, and railways, afforded satisfactory evidence of zeal concerning, and watchfulness over, the interests of Ireland.

In England, in the absence of political stimuli, the excitement which had carried the Reform Acts had gradually subsided, and as the abatement of the popular impulse in one direction is usually followed by the generation of it in another, there were now symptoms of the current setting in a contrary or conservative direction. At all events the prevailing disposition appeared to be not to adventure on further organic changes till the great ones already made had been more fully tried; and the reflective portion of the community, and the intelligent of the radicals themselves, felt indisposed, by premature experiments, to endanger institutions which experience had proved indubitably valuable for the sake of others conferring only doubtful or unimportant benefits. Under the influence of these considerations, what was termed the 'movement' had been, at least, temporarily arrested. The course of public legislation too had been of a kind to operate strongly as a popular sedative. Referring to property rather than personal rights, it did not, like universal suffrage or other wild impracticabilities, in which the multitude fancies itself interested, command the attention of the masses. Even the reform of municipal corporations, which had been the most general question, was of limited concernment, not referring either to the agricultural districts or the largest towns in the kingdom. The other leading questions—legal reforms, the African slave-trade, and the renewal of the charters of the Bank and East India Company were more interesting to lawyers, political economists, and the sectaries than to con-

stitutional agitators. A third cause of quietude was the absence of political partizanship. The strength of the ministerialists was not in their numbers but their measures, which occasionally won them auxiliary aid from all sides. All the old beacons of faction had been confused or displaced by the Reform Acts, and those by whom they were sought scarcely knew where to find them. Sir Robert Peel and the duke of Wellington, lord Stanley, sir J. Graham, Hume, Warburton, and Grote offered a favourable contrast to the profligate adventurers of Queen Anne's reign or the Georges, who never, for a moment, sacrificed party interests to the common weal. By this approximation, by the gravitation as to a centre of adjacent bodies, more than inherent strength, the Melbourne administration has been supported and enabled to carry on the government.

The parliamentary session of 1836 was marked by the same characteristics as those of the three preceding years. Important social amendments were made and practical grievances redressed; but constitutional innovations, tending to the further development of democratic power, were coldly received or openly resisted. By the act for the commutation of tithe, and its conversion into a corn rent-charge, payable in money, some of the strongest objections were obviated that science had urged against a fluctuating impost that taxed industry and enterprise, and varied with the cupidity or caprice of tithe-owners. In the Marriage and Registration Acts some of the scruples of the Dissenters were conciliated, and an important national record of the progress of the population sought to be established. The reduction in the stamp-duty on Newspapers was a concession to a demand generally and vehemently urged for the removal of the fiscal obstruction that impeded the diffusion among the industrious classes of political information. Various measures were projected for the reform of the English Church Establishment, in respect of the disposition of the episcopal revenues, patronage, the incomes of the cathedral, and collegiate foundations; discipline, residence, and pluralities of the parochial clergy. These were neither satisfactory nor successful; only one of the four ministerial bills, and that by a kind of surprise, was carried, the rest being laid aside, either as inefficient or too conservative of the interests of the bishops, to whom the concoction of them had mainly been intrusted, and who had, apparently, framed them more with a view to the well-being of the prelatical order than of their subordinate spiritual brethren, or of the community. The Irish tithe and municipal corporation bills were also among the miscarriages of the session; the former failing from the inclusion of the appropriation clause, and the latter from the determination of the Tories to limit municipal reform to the abolition, not the amendment and continuance of corporate government in Ireland.

Transactions abroad were of a diversified but subordinate character. The great powers of the continent were more occupied in watching over the security of their despotic rule at home than in schemes of territorial ambition. Madrid and Lisbon were successively the scenes of fresh revolutions, of a democratic tendency, which seemed to throw still further into the distance the long-wished-for termination of the intestine divisions of the Peninsula. Enraged by the quarrels and jealousies of the constitutionalists in Spain, and disgusted by the savage warfare waged alike by Christinos and Carlists, France withheld the aid she had stipulated to give by the terms of the Quadruple Alliance, and disbanded the reinforcements intended for the auxiliary legion she had formed at the foot of the Pyrenees. England, notwithstanding, remained true to her engagements—aided the liberals by



supplies of arms—afforded openly an effective naval co-operation, under lord John Hay—and indirectly, by the suspension of the Foreign Enlistment Act, allowed colonel Evans to organise and take out a British legion, for the support of constitutional liberty. In the course of the year two more attempts were made to assassinate Louis Philippe, showing the miserable tenure of his existence and authority. Embittered in spirit, and made uneasy by these revengeful attacks on his life, the French king, in his turn, manifested a fierce hostility, amounting to an absolute persecution of the supposed agents of revolution. Russia, Austria, and Prussia, having in concert, and in violation of their own treaty, made a forcible inroad into Cracow, to expel the Polish refugees, who had taken shelter in her territory, Louis Philippe, or his minister, M. Thiers, threatened hermetically to seal up Switzerland, by which the unfortunate adventurers in the cause of liberty in Italy, Germany, and Poland would have been deprived of the only asylum they possessed, except on the terms of prisoners, on the European continent.

Only the early portion of 1837 is embraced by the concluding limits of our history, and its chief occurrences, which are detailed in the *Chronicle*, do not appear to require preliminary elucidation. Legislative proceedings were arrested by the demise of the crown, and consequent dissolution of parliament. WILLIAM IV. had attained an advanced age, and expired in June, of natural decay. His loss was generally and sincerely regretted by the nation, as that of a good man and beneficent sovereign, who had committed no wrong, provoked no enmity, and whose memory may safely repose undisturbed by the shafts of envy, vengeance, and malignity. The character of the king is easily delineated. It was sincere, plain, and open; without guile, complexity, or indirectness. The long life he had spent before his accession to the throne was unmarked by any adventure or vicissitude out of the common course of mortality; unsignalised by any gross, great, or memorable accompaniment. He had more of the virtues of private life than the endowments of the regal station; those that gain on men's affections, rather than challenge their admiration. Instead of the disturbing passions and commanding faculties that form the chief historical portraits, king William had the less-pretending and often less-hurtful qualities that contribute to domestic comfort and enjoyment—honesty—love of justice—affection to wife and children, to brothers and sisters—steadiness in his attachments to the friends of his early life, and indefatigability in his efforts to serve them, whether by purse or person. On the throne he manifested the same household and true-hearted attributes of an English gentleman, exercising throughout his reign the most unaffected and liberal hospitality, the most active charity, neighbourly kindness, social cordiality, and cheerfulness.

Although the king was not possessed of superior ability or refinement, he was diligent, even laborious, in his efforts rightly to comprehend, and faithfully execute, the duties of his office. His education had not been equal to the standard of the age in which he survived to act a part, no more than that of his brothers, or of George III. and queen Charlotte.\* Notwithstanding defects of early culture and natural talent, his name will ever be associated with a portion of British history over which science and humanity may exult with the least alloy of dissatisfaction. The glories of successful warfare signalised the sway of his immediate prede-

\* Sir Herbert Taylor's "Letter."

cessors ; the less melancholy triumphs of peace that of William. During the seven eventful years of his reign the United Kingdom has been revolutionised without violence, without spoliation. All that has not been reformed has been investigated. The veil has been rent asunder, and every establishment, whether legal, ecclesiastical, official, or colonial, has been thrown open to general gaze and scrutiny. Public institutions rest on their merits ; and all the central but factitious supports government had been wont to derive from parliamentary boroughs, municipal corporations, commercial monopolies, vast and irresponsible patronage, and lavish fiscal expenditure, have been struck from under it. Opinion alone rules, and that opinion wholly free and unfettered. Whoever can sway it, whether by desert, truth, talent, or illusive arts, governs the nation.

The long and wonderful era of George III. is at an end, and by the rapidity of recent changes, seems thrown back almost to a patriarchal age. Two sons having inherited after him, without issue, and the sceptre descending to a female branch, the dynasty of the house of Brunswick seems to pause on the threshold of a new and unknown existence. A young and illustrious princess succeeds to the throne of the noblest empire in the world, when all is new, institutions, maxims of government, and even social, moral, and religious ideas are in the transition state.

#### EVENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

A.D. 1830, *June 26.* ACCESSION OF WILLIAM IV.—His present majesty was the third son of George III, and born Aug. 21, 1765. The biography of the king, previous to his accession to the throne, was marked by few memorable incidents. He entered the navy as a midshipman in 1779, under the especial charge of captain Digby, in the Royal George, a 98-gun ship. After holding the intermediate commissions, as prince William Henry, he was made rear-admiral of the blue, in 1790, by order in council. He had previously been created a peer of parliament as duke of Clarence. The duke saw no more active service afloat after receiving his flag. He sought employment, however, but his wishes were not gratified, and the only instance, in which the public heard of him in his professional capacity, was in 1814, when, as admiral of the fleet, he escorted Louis XVIII. to France. About 1811, he dissolved a connexion, that had subsisted for twenty years, with Mrs. Jordan, a fascinating actress, who had borne him a family of ten children, eight of whom survived. This painful severance of so long a union had become necessary, in consequence of the new plan of life determined upon by the prince, and, so far as a pecuniary settlement could effect it, was made agreeable to his unhappy partner. The duke was married July 11, 1818, to the daughter of the duke of Saxe Meiningen, Adelaide Louisa, who had been strongly recommended to him by

queen Charlotte, on account of her amiable qualities and domestic virtues. In the end of the following year, the duchess became the mother of a seven months' child, the princess Elizabeth, who died in her infancy. On three other occasions, before the end of 1821, the duchess had the misfortune to be prematurely confined. In 1827, Mr. Canning, then prime minister, revived the office of lord-high-admiral in the person of the duke of Clarence, after it had been, with one exception, in commission since the death of prince George of Denmark, the consort of Queen Anne. In this office, the duke became popular by promoting 124 lieutenants to the rank of commanders. He resigned in the following year, under the Wellington ministry. No other public event occurred till his accession. Although little was known, either of the political predilections or abilities of the "sailor-king," as he was called, he soon gained in popular favor by his affable manners, and mixing familiarly with the people, which last contrasted favourably with the secluded life of his predecessor.

28. Meeting of delegates from the trades' unions, held at Manchester to form a national association for the prevention of a *reduction in wages*. No trade to be admitted a member of this aggregate confederacy that is not regularly organized and united in itself. It is arranged, that so soon as the funds will permit, a newspaper shall be



established. The contributions of each member is limited to one penny per week. If their contributions amount to a million, it is calculated that their funds will speedily amount to 1,683,333*l*.

29. POSITION OF PARTIES.—A message was delivered from the king, recommending the despatch of business, and announcing the intended dissolution of parliament. Next day, on the duke of Wellington moving an address to his majesty declaring their willingness to forward the public business, earl Grey moved an amendment, to adjourn to give time for the consideration of the civil list and the expediency of a regency. Amendment rejected by 100 to 56. An amendment of similar import was moved in the commons, by lord Althorp, and negatived by 185 to 139. These conflicting motions showed that the alliance between the ministers and the whigs had been dissolved. They had served but received no wages; neither was there a likelihood of their being placed on the ministerial establishment, as the duke was more disposed to make peace with his former colleagues than depend on the volunteer support of the opposition. They had supported him on the same ground that they had supported Mr. Canning, from approval of the liberal portion of his policy, and also under an impression that the waywardness of the late king required to be controlled by a firm man. The same reasons no longer existed; and, moreover, an impression was abroad that the experience the duke had yet had in civil affairs, was not such as to qualify him for the permanent government of the country almost in the capacity of dictator.

July 5. CAPTURE OF ALGIERS.—A powerful armament, fitted out by the French to chastise the Algerines, had sailed from Toulon on the 25th May. It consisted of 68 ships of war, besides transports, conveying 30,852 infantry, 534 cavalry, 2,329 artillery, and 1,330 engineers. M. Bourmont, minister-of-war, was commander-in-chief, attended by 25 interpreters of the Moorish, Arabic, and Turkish languages. Impeded by contrary winds, the expedition was unable to effect a landing on the African coast till the 14th June. The disembarkation was effected without opposition on the peninsula of Sidi Ferruch, between which and Algiers the enemy occupied a fortified camp with 40,000 men. Bourmont attacked the camp; the batteries erected were instantly carried; the Turks and Arabs took to flight, abandoning to the French a vast quantity of provisions, several flocks of sheep, and 100 camels. The victors next advanced towards the city of Algiers. It made a feeble resistance, and, July 5th, the dey concluded a treaty for its surrender; stipulating only for his own

personal safety and the security of his private property. Laying aside the royal garments he left the palace, and took up his abode in the city as a private individual, and soon after withdrew with his family into Italy. Within 21 days after landing, and with the loss of less than 500 men, in killed and wounded, the French abated the long-standing nuisance of the piratical regency of Algiers. Except 1500 cannons on the walls, 12 ships of war in the harbour, and the warlike stores in the arsenals, the treasure which was found in the conquered city fell short of the barbaric wealth which had been anticipated by the captors. The expedition had been regarded by Europe as an expedition to chastise an insult; it soon turned out to be a conquest, and marshal Bourmont proceeded to take all the measures necessary to secure Algeria as a French settlement.

15. Remains of George IV. interred at Windsor.

23. Parliament prorogued. The speech delivered by the king to both houses congratulated them on the general tranquillity of Europe. He also expressed his satisfaction at the relief afforded to the people by the repeal of taxes, at the reforms introduced into the judicial establishments of the country, and at the removal of the civil disqualifications which affected numerous classes.

24. PARLIAMENT DISSOLVED.—The chief practical measures of the session had been the repeal of the duties on beer and the opening of the beer-trade. Great complaints had existed, first, against the magistrates, as being either partial or corrupt in the exercise of their powers, in the licensing of public-houses; and, secondly, against the monopoly of the large brewers, who, it was alleged, availed themselves of the proprietorship of many of the ale-houses to force upon the consumer inferior or adulterated beer. The object of the new act was to open the trade. It did not interfere with the power of the magistrates in licensing houses, but it allowed any one to retail beer to be consumed on the premises, merely by taking out a license from the excise. An attempt was made to get rid of *death punishment* for forgery, but it was defeated in the house of lords. An act passed for the amendment of the libel law; it repealed the punishment of *banishment* for a second offence, but required additional securities from newspaper proprietors to answer for damages.

26. INSURRECTION IN PARIS.—The appointment of the ministry of prince Polignac, last August, was an open declaration of war against the liberal party. They prepared for the coming storm by forming

an association to resist the payment of taxes, by raising subscriptions to indemnify those who might suffer in resisting the exercise of illegal power, and by spirited appeals to the people through the medium of the journals. To the reflecting, the issue of the approaching struggle could never have appeared doubtful. Direct taxes form almost the entire source of the public revenue of France, and a passive resistance to their payment would have greatly embarrassed, if not arrested, the wild design of subverting the national liberties. Nine-tenths of the community were favourable to a constitutional system. The press and the people were against ministers; the mercantile and trading classes were opposed to them; and to contend against the general hostility, government had not a great and devoted army, like Napoleon, to overawe discontent, nor, like former kings, a numerous nobility, wealthy church establishment, and servile municipal corporations. It stood weak and insulated, morally and physically. The relative strength of the parties was attested by the prevailing sentiments of the newspapers and the result of the elections. Unable to resist the opposition in the chamber of deputies, the king had had recourse to a dissolution. All the means government possessed were called into exertion to influence the elections, but they entirely failed. In Paris, where the electors amounted to 8,845, only 1,500 voted for the ministerial candidates, while 7,314 voted for the opposition members. It followed, that the newly-elected chamber was more inimical to the court than its predecessor; while the public dissatisfaction had been augmented by the unjustifiable means adopted to control the exercise of the elective franchise. The chamber had not yet met, and ministers seemed determined it never should. Having failed in their appeal to public opinion, they determined on the more hazardous experiment of an appeal to force. The plot opened with a report addressed to the king, drawn up by M. Chantelauze, and signed by him and Polignac, D'Haussez, Peyronnet, Montbel, Ranville, and Capelle, recommending the suppression of the periodical press, on account of its seditiousness, which legal prosecutions had been unable to control; and the re-construction of the chamber of deputies, on the ground of its democratic character. This report appeared in the *Moniteur*, on the morning of Monday, July 26. On the same day, and in the same paper, appeared the famous ordinances in conformity with the report, dated the 26th, signed by the king and countersigned by his ministers. By the first ordinance, the liberty of the press is suppressed, and no journal allowed to be published

without the authority of the government. By the second, the chamber of deputies, which was to meet August 3rd is dissolved. By the third, a new scheme of election was introduced, which destroyed the franchises of three-fourths of the electors and reduced the number of deputies from 430 to 258 members. Thus, the constitution was swept away by royal mandates, issued without colour of authority, beyond a manifest perversion of the 14th article of the Charter. Several hours elapsed before the ordinances were generally known, and then the capital began to display symptoms of rising agitation. The editors and proprietors of the journals assembled, and having resolved that the ordinances were illegal, they determined to publish their papers on the following day. A statement of their views, signed by thirty-eight persons, the conductors and proprietors of twelve journals, was published in the *National*. "In the situation in which we are placed," said they, "obedience ceases to be a duty. We are dispensed from obeying. We resist the government in what concerns ourselves. It is for France to determine how far her resistance ought to extend." Government naturally anticipated a formidable resistance. But military precautions had been taken. The most energetic measures had been adopted by Polignac without consulting his colleagues, but in concert with marshal Marmont, duke of Ragusa, for securing the execution of the ordinances by force of arms. On the day the ordinances were signed, the command of the whole garrison of Paris was given to Marmont. It consisted of 4,750 men of the guards, 4,400 troops of the line, 1,100 men belonging to the veteran battalion, and 1,300 gendarmes making in all, 11,500. Conformably to their announcement, the journalists prepared to issue their papers on the 27th, when the gendarmerie and other agents of police entered and began scattering the types and breaking the presses, which not being quietly submitted to, crowds speedily collected round the scene of violence. The most resolute stand was made at the offices of the *Temps* and *National*; they refused admission to the police, and no blacksmith could be found who would pick the locks. At last, the services of an artisan, employed to rivet the manacles of galley-slaves, enabled them to enter. The electors of Paris had met in the spacious room where the association "*Aide toi, et le Ciel t'aidera*" held its sittings, and with prompt unanimity had determined to oppose force to force, if the ordinances were not immediately withdrawn. The plan of operations was soon decided on. Deputations were to wait on the manufacturers, printers, builders, and other capitalists, requesting them to dis-



charge their work-people, which was done; and on the 27th, 50,000 unemployed workmen were collected in different parts of the capital, in groups, crying *Vive la Charte!* in presence of the royal guard. In the course of Tuesday, about thirty deputies, who had arrived in Paris preparatory to the opening of the chamber, met at the house of M. Casimir Perier. They were few in number, but determined and resolved to encourage the rising of the people. The square of the Palais Royal, the rue St. Honoré, and other adjacent streets were the places where the assemblages of the people, on the 27th, were the largest, and became the first scenes of the sanguinary strife that was about to commence. The troops were all under arms; on these points they were numerous, and without any provocation from the people except their cries, the military began to use their arms. A charge of mounted gendarmerie took place, sabreing every body before them, and the infantry of the guards fired several volleys on the unarmed multitude. The first hostile act on the popular side is said to have been a shot discharged from the Hotel Royal by an Englishman, named Foulkes. The fire was returned and Foulkes killed. Reports were spread of others killed or wounded, and of women among the sufferers. Indignant at the wanton shedding of blood, the citizens prepared to act with energy. It was evident a deadly battle was to be fought, and the black flag, which was raised in various quarters, indicated the nature of the coming struggle. The night of the 27th was spent in preparation. The citizens armed themselves in good earnest; pistols, sabres, bayonets, and offensive weapons of every description, were laid hold of. The shops of the armourers were visited, and they carried off the arms and ammunition deposited in an unoccupied barrack. There were known to be 40,000 equipments of the national guard in Paris, which Charles X. had disbanded. In every street men were employed in digging up the large stones with which Paris is paved; part of these were carried to the tops of the houses, and the rest, together with the omnibuses and fiacres, used in constructing across the streets barricades, at successive distances of about fifty paces. Many of the fine trees on the boulevards were thrown across the road, and the lamps demolished or extinguished. By daybreak, on the 28th, the citizens were nearly ready, and soon after nine o'clock shots began to fly. A bonfire at the end of the rue St. Denis, made of the window shutters of the *Quotidienne*, was the first open symptom of war. Here and there, a national guard began to be seen in uniform, hastening, amidst the cheers of the people, to the Hotel de Ville. Parties

of the cavalry and lancers galloped up and down, and occasionally a man, shot from a window or other retreat, was seen to fall backward in his seat. At ten o'clock, Marmont formed six columns of attack; they were preceded by cannon, and directed to concentrate round the Hotel de Ville. For a moment, the populace yielded to the superiority of the artillery and regular troops. They abandoned the open places and large streets, to take shelter behind the barriers and within the houses. From these points they kept up an incessant fire of musquetry, and poured on the troops a shower of paving stones and other destructive missiles. Notwithstanding, some of the advancing columns succeeded in penetrating to the grand centre of attack, the Hotel de Ville. Here the fight was bravely maintained by the national guards. The fire of the defenders from the upper part of the building was unceasing, while the cannon of the assailants thundered from below. It was taken and retaken several times, the Swiss at last remaining masters, but they were forced to abandon their dear-bought conquest next morning. Amidst the conflicts of the day, Marshal Marmont wrote to Charles X., at the palace of St. Cloud, saying, "It is no longer a riot—it is a revolution. It is urgent your majesty should take the means of pacification." The king returned by an aide-de-camp a verbal message to the marshal, urging him "To be firm, to unite his forces in the Carrousel and on the place Louis XV., and to act with masses." The last words Charles twice repeated. The duchess of Berri and the dauphin were with the king, but did not speak. According to the testimony of M. Arago, the astronomer, Marmont's heart was never in the cause for which he was fighting, but, as a soldier, he felt bound to obedience. (*Ann. Reg.* lxxii. 200.) Count Lobau, general Gerard, and MM. Lafitte Perier, and Manguin, with the laudable design of stopping the carnage, waited upon Marmont at his head-quarters, at the Tuileries. They proposed to stop the insurrection by a repeal of the ordinances, the dismissal of ministers, and the assembling of the chambers. Prince de Polignac, who, with others of the ministers, was in an apartment adjoining to the marshal's, appeared inclined to listen to these proposals, but hesitated, and finished by declaring that the ordinances could not be withdrawn. It only remained, therefore, to continue the bloody strife. In the course of the day, Marmont had declared Paris in a state of siege, which subjected the inhabitants to martial law, and he issued warrants for the arrest of M. Lafitte and some others, but, after his interview with the deputation, recalled the warrants. The citizens spent

the night of the 28th in strengthening their defences, in removing the slain, and providing for the wounded. Reports of fire-arms continued to be heard till midnight, which, with the noise of the breaking up of pavements and the erection of fresh barricades, showed that the struggle was not over. At half-past three in the morning, the tocsin began to sound, and cries of *Aux armes !* were heard in various quarters.

On the third day, two regiments of the line joined the people. At ten o'clock, the citizens of St. Jaques, St. Germain, the Odeon, and Gros Caillon, excited by the sound of the tocsin from almost all the churches, and by shouts of *Vive la Charte !* came forth in arms, the mass amounting to 5,000. They had to combat the defenders of the Louvre and the Tuileries. The attack began in the Garden of Infants. The royal guard permitted the first assailants to approach, and there the contest ended almost as soon as it was begun, by the slaughter of the front rank. Almost at the same instant, fresh assailants drove back the defenders of this important post. In the midst of a constantly rolling fire, the iron railings were broken down. This manœuvre, which, in the end, made the citizens masters of the Tuileries, was effected with extraordinary resolution and rapidity. Still resistance was offered, with bloody obstinacy, on other points, particularly the Pavilion of Flora, from which a slaughtering fire had been kept up from seven in the morning on the Pont Royal. As soon as the Pavilion was taken, every article of furniture and thousands of scattered papers, among which were proclamations to the troops, were thrown out of the windows. Twice the palace of the Tuileries was taken and abandoned, but at half-past one the citizens were finally victorious, and two tri-coloured flags were placed on the central pavilion. Marmont, finding all was lost, withdrew his troops, and by three o'clock in the afternoon of the 29th Paris was left entirely at the command of the triumphant population. The national guard was organized, and the veteran of patriotic revolutions, general Lafayette, took the command. In their glorious struggle, the citizens were assisted by some old soldiers of the empire, and the pupils of the Polytechnic School who gallantly led them to the charge, and whose military studies qualified them to direct their operations effectively. The slaughter was great, especially, as might be expected, of the civic combatants, but the prize contended for was worthy the sacrifice. Of the citizens, 390 were killed on the spot, and of 2,500 wounded, 306 died. Of the royal guard, 375 were killed and wounded, and of gendarmes 202. It appeared on the subsequent trial of Polignac and his col-

leagues, that the commanders of corps carried about with them written orders to fire on the people without reserve or waiting for directions from the civil power. The soldiers were encouraged to fight by a lavish distribution of money, 974,291 francs having been issued for the purpose by M. Montbel, the minister of finance. During the memorable three days, the weather was uncommonly fine.

30. Charles X. retires to Rambouillet.

31. The Chamber of Deputies voted that the ordinance for their dissolution being contrary to the charter, they are legally constituted. They, then resolved that, the safety of the state requiring an immediate governor, Louis Philip, duke of Orleans be requested to accept the office of lieutenant-general of the kingdom. The duke, who had arrived in Paris the preceding night, and who was assisted by the councils of prince Talleyrand, declared his acceptance of the office, and issued a proclamation to the Parisians, concluding with the emphatic pledge, "The charter will henceforth be a truth."

Aug. 3. Chambers opened by the lieutenant-general. About 200 deputies were present. The galleries were crowded with peers, general officers of the old army, the diplomatic body, &c. The duke pronounced his speech with an audible voice, and referred, with emphasis, to violations of the charter, and to guarantees against future encroachments. "Attached," said he, "by inclination and conviction to the principle of a free government, I accept, beforehand, all the consequences of it."

5. Mr. Brougham elected member for the county of York. Alluding to the revolution in France, and to the probable policy of the European governments in consequence, he told the electors that "England was bound over in heavy recognizances to keep the peace ; a debt of 800 millions was the amount of our recognizances, and he had no fear they would be broken." Up to the present time, the learned gentleman, during his long parliamentary career had sat for one of the nomination boroughs of the whig lords ; after his unsuccessful stand for Liverpool, in 1812, he was without a seat for three sessions ; but was again brought into the house of commons for lord Darlington's borough of Winchelsea, at the request of earl Grey, and which he continued to represent till returned by the independent constituency of Yorkshire.

NEW FRENCH CHARTER.—In a sitting of the chamber of Deputies it was resolved that on agreeing to certain modifications in the charter of Louis XVIII., the duke of Orleans should be acknowledged sovereign, with right of perpetual succession in his male descendants, in order of primogeniture,



under the title of the king of the *French*, the title of "king of *France*" being abandoned as savouring of feudality; France belonging to Frenchmen, not the king. The preamble and various clauses in the old charter were suppressed; others were altered on important points. No state religion is acknowledged, but the ministers of all sects of christian denominations to be supported at the public expense. The king is the supreme head of the state; he may make regulations necessary to the execution of the laws, but has no suspensive power. The initiation of laws, their enactment by majorities of the two chambers, with the sanction of the king, the contemporaneous session of the two chambers, the election of a speaker or president, and the settlement of the civil list during the whole reign, are assimilated to the English practice. The sittings of the peers are made public; they were private under the old charter. Deputies to be elected for five years, in lieu of a renewal of one-fifth every year. Persons eligible to be elected deputies at 30 years of age in lieu of 40, and electors to vote at 25 in lieu of 30. Lastly, all the peerages created during the reign of Charles, 93 in number, are annulled. The peers took no part in the framing of the new constitution, further than to signify their adhesion to all its articles, with the exception of that which disqualified the members of their own body, leaving it "to the high prudence of the prince lieutenant-general."

9. Louis Philip took the oath faithfully to observe the constitutional charter, in the presence of the chamber of deputies. He then addressed, in a short speech, the assembled peers and deputies, saying, that he "had maturely weighed the important duties imposed upon him, and he was conscious of being able to fulfil them." The hall resounded with acclamations; and the king returned to the Palais Royal, where he gave a grand dinner to the peers, deputies, and others distinguished by talent or social position. At night, Paris was illuminated.

17. Charles X. arrived in England.

Meeting at the London Tavern, at which an address, from the pen of Dr. Bowring, to the citizens of Paris, congratulating them on the July revolution, was unanimously agreed to. Henry Warburton, M.P., in the chair.

25. REVOLUTION IN BELGIUM.—The spirit of resistance, which had been awakened by the events in France, visited Brussels with a revolution, no less unexpected and rapid than that which had occurred in Paris. When Belgium was joined to Holland, in 1815, to form the kingdom of the Netherlands, the union was one of convenience on the part of the

allied sovereigns, by whom it was negotiated, to raise a powerful bulwark on the frontier of France: it was not attended by any congeniality of habits or interests in the communities who were thus joined together. There were differences of national character, of religion, and, in some measure, of language. The Belgians considered the union compulsory, and the terms of it unequal. They complained that the king himself, a Dutchman and stadtholder of Holland, sacrificed his acquired dominions to his hereditary; that Dutchmen were allowed a monopoly of offices; that they were taxed for Dutch debts and Dutch objects; that their religion, and institutions for education connected with it, was discouraged; that their own language even had been banished from their courts of law; that Belgium, in short, was governed as a conquered province, not as an integral portion of an independent national federation! These grievances had formed the topics of complaint in the liberal newspapers, during the past year, and their editors, M. Potter, Tielmons, and Bartels, had been the subject of government prosecutions. The catholic priests were also among the discontented. They complained of the nomination by the king of certain high ecclesiastical dignitaries, and of his interference in the catholic seminaries of education. This was nearly the state of affairs, when on the 25th a riot broke out at Brussels, directed against a local tax, enhancing the price of bread. The vengeance of the populace was chiefly directed against the *National*, a newspaper in the interest of the Dutch party, and against the minister of justice, M. Van Maanen, whose house was attacked, gutted, and burnt to the ground. The rioters broke into the wine and spirit shops, and obtained a supply of arms from the gun-smiths. The troops were called out, they fired and blood was shed. But the rioters, instead of being discouraged, became exasperated. The streets were about to become the scene of terrible conflicts, when the military, taught by the recent lesson in Paris of the risks of street warfare with a furious multitude, withdrew, leaving the insurgents masters of the city. A burgher guard, on the plan of the French national guard, was then formed of the middle classes, for the protection of property, a provisional authority established, and communications opened with the government at the Hague. Insurrections speedily followed at Liege, Namur, and other cities, and an unanimous and inveterate spirit of hostility to the union with Holland speedily showed itself through the Netherlands. The prince of Orange repaired to Brussels to receive a representation of grievances; but was not permitted to enter the city accompanied by the troops:

he promised to use his good offices with his father and the States-General.

**Sept. 6.** Riot at Oxford, in which the military, who were conducting some prisoners to the castle for rioting and trespass on Otmoor, were attacked by the populace and the prisoners rescued.

**8.** Insurrection at Brunswick, which continued some days, during which the palace was set on fire and destroyed. The reigning duke, who had rendered himself odious by his weakness and tyranny, fled to England; but, at length, prince William, his brother, with the assistance of a burgher guard, succeeded in restoring tranquillity.

**9.** Political commotion at Dresden; a few days after which, the king of Saxony, Anthony, resigned his authority to his nephew, Frederick, whom he appointed regent. There were also commotions at Berlin, Hamburg, Hesse Darmstadt, and other places in the northern parts of Europe.

**15. DEATH OF MR. HUSKISSON.**—Today was fixed for the opening of the Liverpool and Manchester Railway; it had been four years in progress, and up to May 31 the expenditure on the works amounted to 7,391,656*l.* The duke of Wellington, Mr. Huskisson, and other public characters, had been invited to be present at the opening ceremony. A very handsome carriage, prepared for the duke, led the procession from Liverpool. At Parkfield, the engines stopped to renew the feeders and take in a supply of fuel. Here, contrary to the printed directions of the directors, several gentlemen descended from the carriages, among them, Mr. Huskisson, Mr. William Holmes, M. P., thinking the moment favourable for bringing Mr. Huskisson and the duke together, and for producing a renewed good feeling between them, led Mr. Huskisson round to that part of the car where the duke was stationed, who perceiving the advance of the hon. gentleman, immediately held out his hand to him, which was shaken in a very cordial manner. At this moment, the Rocket was perceived to be on the advance, and there was a general cry *Get in! Get in!* Mr. Huskisson hesitating, was knocked down by the steam-carriage, which went over his thigh and lacerated him in so dreadful a manner as to occasion his death the following night. On being raised from the ground, by the Earl of Wilton and Mr. Parkes, Mr. Huskisson said, "This is my death—God, forgive me!" An occasion of very natural exultation was thus converted into one of mourning. Mr. Huskisson was in the 60th year of his age, and, with lord Dudley, headed a small but clever political section, of which the Grants, lord Palmerston, and Mr. William Lamb, were members. He did not stand high, any more than his party, for public disin-

terestedness; nor was he distinguished for eloquence: he had neither the graces of diction, fluency, nor readiness of speech; but was acute, full, and correct in information, and was listened to with deference by the house of commons, especially on commercial subjects, with the principles and statistics of which he was well acquainted. His life had been mostly spent in office, to which he was passionately attached, and at the last unhappy catastrophe seems to have been engaged, in concert with Mr. Holmes, in an amicable overture to the minister by whom he had been haughtily treated.

**18.** Died in Frith-street, Soho, in his fifty-second year, WILLIAM HAZLITT, a gifted but eccentric writer on general literature. He was a native of Maidstone, and the son of a dissenting minister, and at an early period of life applied himself to painting, which, as a profession, he soon relinquished for the kindred one of letters, though he always retained an intense love for the productions of the pencil, on which he could descant with great taste, fancy, and eloquence. The first acknowledged production of his pen was an "Essay on the Principles of Human Action;" a subject, perhaps, not the most happily chosen for a maiden attempt, nor the best suited to the intellect of Hazlitt, which, though bold and acute, hardly possessed the strength and coherence essential safely to conduct him through the recesses of metaphysical philosophy. His "Characters of Shakspeare's Plays" was a more successful work, attracted much notice and procured great credit for the writer. It was in criticism, poetry, and the fine arts, in sketches of life, manners, and public characters, that Mr. Hazlitt excelled and threw off impressions, not always correct in the drawing, but possessing much general beauty, force, and originality. He was, however, very unequal; much of what he wrote might have been advantageously omitted; and in straining after vulgar effect he fell into exaggerations in style and sentiment. He was an uncompromising liberal in politics, and seemed to carry out his own notion of a true partisan in being "a good hater;" and, on the other hand, he was not deficient in the opposite extreme of being rather indiscriminate in his idolatry, of which his "Life of Napoleon" is an instance. Mr. Hazlitt delivered two or more courses of Lectures on the British poets and writers of the Elizabethan age. He was a profuse contributor of essays and criticisms to the London newspaper and periodical press; and wrote a curious publication, "The Modern Pygmalion," giving an account of his own amours, after the manner of his favourite author Rousseau, in his "Confessions."



Hazlitt was partly a Robert Burns in prose.

21. DUTCH ASSAULT ON BRUSSELS.—

The populace who had driven out of the city the Dutch troops (*Aug. 25*), finding their authority superseded by the burgher guard, rose and overpowered them. These divisions, between the middle and working classes, seemed to present a favourable opportunity to the Dutch to recover possession of the city and crush the rebellion in its birth-place. They advanced towards Brussels, but the insurgents, aided by a determined body of 300 men from Liege, prepared to give them a warm reception. Baricades were formed at the gates; the pavement torn up, and the stones carried to the tops of the houses lining the streets through which the troops would have to advance. The assault began on the 21st. The gate was speedily cleared by the artillery, but when the troops came to advance up the streets they were overwhelmed from above with showers of stones, heavy pieces of furniture, hatchets, and every species of missile. At one point they were successful, but could not penetrate farther than the park and upper part of the town. On the two following days the conflict was kept up with unabated spirit on both sides, but the troops gained no advantage, and the insurgents kept their ground. On the night of the 22d, a rumour was spread that the city would be delivered up to plunder for two days if mastered, which induced the richer citizens to join the populace. Hostilities did not entirely cease till the 27th, when prince Frederick, finding to carry and retain the city would be a hopeless attempt, retreated. The loss on the side of the inhabitants was 165 killed and 311 wounded. Civil war had now openly commenced, and Oct. 4th., the provisional government issued a proclamation declaring the independence of Belgium. As yet, Ghent and Antwerp had taken no part in the insurrection; but three weeks after, the inhabitants of the latter rose against the Dutch garrison, and throwing open their gates to the Belgians, compelled general Chassé to take shelter in the citadel, whence he began to cannonade the town with red-hot shells and balls, doing immense damage, the city being set on fire in different parts and many lives lost. It was, at length, agreed to suspend the firing, on condition that the Belgic auxiliaries retired, leaving Antwerp to the care of its inhabitants, and the Dutch remaining in possession of the citadel. So far, the progress of events had been uninterrupted by the interference of foreign powers. The kingdom of the Netherlands, as before stated, had been created by Great Britain, Austria, Prussia, Russia, and even France had been a party to it. Upon this ground, they assumed a right of mediation

between the belligerents; and on the 4th November a protocol was signed at London, declaring that hostilities should cease, and that the troops of the contending parties should retire within the limits which, previous to May 30, 1814, separated Belgium from the United Provinces.

30. The independence of the South American republics is acknowledged by France.

Oct. 5. Proclamation issued by the president of the United States, declaring the ports of that country open to the British trade, and the repeal of the laws restricting the intercourse with British colonial ports.

9. Intelligence of the loss of eighteen ships engaged in the northern whale fishery: the crews were saved.

11. Grand dinner at Birmingham, to celebrate recent events in France, to which 3700 persons sat down.

14. Several parishes of the metropolis passed resolutions against the New Police. They objected chiefly to the increased expense it imposed on the inhabitants.

17. Tumults at Paris, in consequence of a law having been introduced for abolishing the punishment of death for political offences, which the populace considered an indirect attempt to save the lives of the Polignac ministry. Disturbances quelled by the national guard.

26. MEETING OF THE NEW PARLIAMENT.—The elections had gone strongly against ministers. The chief whig and tory borough proprietors had been opposed to them; events in France had also operated unfavourably. It had been currently represented that prince Polignac had been made minister by the influence of the duke of Wellington, and that the latter, if he had not suggested, had approved of his policy, though he might now dislike the rashness with which its execution had been attempted. There was no truth in this representation, as the prompt acknowledgment of the government of Louis Philip by the duke attested; but it had answered the temporary purpose of declamation and excitement during the elections. So strong was the general feeling against the ministry, that not a single cabinet minister obtained a seat by any thing approaching to an open and popular election. Liverpool had again returned the late Mr. Huskisson and general Gascoyne, both of them hostile, though on different grounds, to the administration. The economical labours of Mr. Hume recommended him to the multitudinous freeholders of Middlesex; and Mr. Brougham, as before noticed, was returned for Yorkshire, though wholly unconnected with that great county. Two brothers of Mr. Secretary Peel and his brother-in-law lost their elections. Mr. Croker was ejected from Dublin university on account of his pro-catholic vote. The general results of the elections were as

follows. Of the 82 members returned by the English counties, only 28 were steady adherents of the ministry; 47 were avowed adherents of the opposition, and 7 were neutral. Of thirteen great cities and boroughs returning 28 members, only three seats were held by decided ministerialists, 24 by decided oppositionists. Of 236 members returned by elections, more or less popular, in England, only 79 were ministerial votes; 141 were in avowed opposition, and 16 of a neutral cast. Ministers, therefore, could only look for a majority among the close boroughs and the Scotch members; and among these, the great families that commanded the largest number of members were among their opponents. The following is a classification of the new parliament, according to the interests and connexions of the members:—

Agricultural Interests . . .	356
East India Interests . . .	62
West India Interests . . .	35
Bankers . . . . .	33
Officers in the Army . . .	89
Officers in the Navy . . .	24
Lawyers . . . . .	54
Placemen and Pensioners . .	219
Relations of Peers . . .	256
Miscellaneous . . . . .	51

Many of the members belonged to several classes or interests, which being enumerated in each swells the nominal number above 658.

28. Their majesties visit Drury-lane theatre.

30. A public meeting of the magistrates and landowners of Kent, held at Canterbury, to consider the alarming state of that county, at which the necessity of taking measures to alleviate the distresses of the labourers was conceded, as well as active precautions against the destruction of their property by incendiary fires.

Nov. 2. KING'S SPEECH.—The commons having again chosen Mr. Manners Sutton for their speaker, and the members taken the oaths, the first session of the new parliament was opened by a speech from the throne. His majesty informed them of the alteration that had taken place in the reigning family of France; deeply regretted the state of affairs in the Low Countries, and expressed the intention of endeavouring, in concert with his allies, to devise means to restore tranquillity; held out hopes of an amicable arrangement being made with the reigning power of Portugal; recommended a provision for a regency in case of a demise of the Crown; placed the hereditary revenues at the disposal of the commons; lamented the destruction of property by fire and the breaking of machinery; expressed satisfaction at the continuance of peace and commercial prosperity,

and concluded with expressing reliance on the firmness and wisdom of parliament. Addresses in both houses were carried without a division, but not without discussion. Earl Grey took occasion to urge the necessity of an immediate reform of Parliament, which elicited from the duke of Wellington a declaration that the legislature deserved and possessed the confidence of the country; that it *could not be improved*; and that he was determined to oppose any measure for that purpose, if brought forward. This uncalled for and haughty interdict, both as respected the present and future prospects of reform, excited a strong and indignant feeling among the people. In the commons, Mr. Brougham gave notice that he would that day fortnight submit to the house a proposition on parliamentary reform. Next day, on bringing up the report on the address, Mr. Tennyson and other members took occasion to comment on the declaration of the minister against reform.

3. Change in the French ministry, which is now composed as follows:—M. Lafitte, president of the council and minister of finance; Marshal Maison, minister of foreign affairs; Count Montalivet, minister of the interior M. Dupont de l'Eure, keeper of the seals; Marshal Soult, minister of war; M. Merithon, minister of public instruction; and General Sebastiani, minister of the marine.

7. Intended visit of the king to the city on lord-mayor's day postponed by the advice of his ministers. They had received a great many letters from individuals, apprising them of the unfavourable reception they were likely to receive; among them, one from Mr. Charles Pearson, and another from Mr. John Key, the lord-mayor elect, who suggested to the duke of Wellington that he should come "strongly and sufficiently guarded." During the Saturday and Sunday, industrious attempts had been made by placards to inflame the public mind against the royal speech, the anti-reform declaration of the duke, and the new metropolitan police. It is likely there would have been riot and perhaps bloodshed, and it was to avoid these his grace advised that the king's visit should be postponed. "If firing had begun," said the duke to Sir W. Knighton, "who could tell where it would end? I know what street-firing is: one guilty person would fall, and ten innocent be destroyed. Would this have been wise or humane, for a little bravado, or that the country might not have been alarmed for a day or two?"—(*Sir William Knighton's Memoirs*, II., 182.)

8. Upon the motion of the marquis of Lansdowne, considerable discussion arose on the abandonment of the king's visit to the city. Earl Grey, the duke of Richmond, and other peers, contended that the post-



ponement was uncalled for; that it had excited needless alarm, and produced an extraordinary depression of the funds. The subject was also agitated in the house of commons. Ministers defended themselves on the ground of the numerous communications they had received confirmatory of intended tumult and outrage.

12. The Chancellor of the Exchequer having submitted his resolutions to the house for the settlement of the Civil List, Sir H. Parnell, complaining of its want of economy and the confusion of its details, gave notice of a motion that it be referred to a select committee.

15. According to notice, Sir H. Parnell moved for a select committee, which, after a considerable debate, was carried against ministers by 233 against 204, leaving them in a minority of 29.

16. Ministers resign their places.

22. EARL GREY'S MINISTRY.—The withdrawal of the support of the whigs, and the composition of the new parliament, as already described, unaided by the indiscretions of its chief, are sufficient to account for the dissolution of the Wellington cabinet. On the day the new ministry kissed hands on their appointments, lords Grey and Lansdowne took occasion to declare in the Lords the principles upon which they, with other members of the administration, had accepted office. These were peace, retrenchment, and reform. Some hasty expressions of Mr. Brougham led to rumours that he would not form part of the new ministry, and that he intended to follow up the notice he had given by bringing forward the subject of parliamentary reform. These proved premature. The celebrated reform ministry consisted of the following members:—

Earl Grey, *First Lord of the Treasury.*

Marquis of Lansdowne, *Lord President.*

Lord Brougham, *Lord Chancellor.*

Viscount Althorp, *Chancellor of the Exchequer.*

Viscount Melbourne, *Home Secretary.*

Viscount Palmerston, *Foreign Secretary.*

Viscount Goderich, *Colonial Secretary.*

Lord Durham, *Lord Privy Seal.*

Lord Auckland, *President of the Board of Trade and Master of the Mint.*

Sir James Graham, *First Lord of the Admiralty.*

Lord Holland, *Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.*

Charles Grant, *President of the India Board.*

Earl of Carlisle, *No Office.*

The above formed the Cabinet.

C. W. W. Wynn, *Secretary at War.*

Sir James Kempt, *Master General of the Ordnance.*

Lord John Russell, *Paymaster General.*

George Agar Ellis, *First Commissioner of Land Revenue.*

Duke of Richmond, *Postmaster General.*

Robert Grant, *Judge Advocate General.*

Sir Robert Spencer, *Surveyor General.*

Lord Nugent, Robert Vernon Smith,

Francis Baring, and Hon. G. Ponsonby, *Lords of the Treasury.*

Poulett Thomson, *Vice-President of the Board of Trade.*

Duke of Devonshire, *Lord Chamberlain.*

Marquis Wellesley, *Lord Steward.*

Earl of Albemarle, *Master of the Horse.*

Marquis of Winchester, *Groom of the Stole.*

Sir Thomas Denman, *Attorney General.*

Sir William Horne, *Solicitor General.*

IRELAND:—

Marquis Anglesey, *Lord Lieutenant.*

Lord Plunkett, *Lord Chancellor.*

Hon. E. G. S. Stanley, *Chief Secretary.*

Edward Pennefather, *Attorney General.*

Philip Crampton, *Solicitor General.*

Sir John Byng, *Commander of the Forces.*

SCOTLAND:—

Francis Jeffrey, *Lord Advocate.*

Henry Cockburn, *Solicitor General.*

Mr. Brougham's patent of peerage had not reached the clerk of parliament on the 22nd, so he could only take his place on the woolsack as speaker, in virtue of his office as lord chancellor.

29. POLISH INSURRECTION.—The flame of popular insurrection, which had visited France, Belgium, and Germany, spread eastward to Poland. Here, however, the insurrection did not appear to rise immediately from political discontents, but to have been the instantaneous result of an insulting proceeding on the part of the viceroy, the grand duke Constantine, whose savage character had excluded him from popularity wherever his power had been felt. He had taken offence at the young men attending the military school at Warsaw, because at a social banquet they had toasted the memory of Kosciuszko. For this he ordered some of the young men to be flogged, and others of them to be sent to prison. To resist this tyrannical proceeding, and exact vengeance for the disgrace of the punishment, their companions rose in arms on the 29th inst. The Russian guards were called out to suppress them, and immediately the Polish regiments, who formed part of the garrison, joined the students. As the contest became hotter, national antipathy roused the townspeople: Assisted by the troops, they forced their way into the arsenal and supplied themselves with arms. This great accession of strength decided the day; the Russian troops, after a bloody contest in the streets of Warsaw, were driven out of the city and compelled to re-

tire to the other side of the Vistula. The grand duke himself narrowly escaped from his palace. The Poles being thus masters of the city, a provisional administration was formed, consisting of the most popular and influential of the nobility. Two commissioners were sent to Petersburg, in order, if possible, to effect an amicable settlement with the emperor. But Nicholas refused to listen to their representations, and issued a proclamation, in which he threatened to inflict on the Poles the most severe punishment for what he described as "their horrid treason." The Poles, undismayed, prepared to meet the terrible conflict that awaited them, and, after the manner of old Rome, made choice of a "Dictator," general Joseph Clouppiki.

**Dec. 17. DEATH OF SIMON BOLIVAR.**—The Liberator expired at San Pedro, a voluntary exile, in the 48th year of his age. He was of noble parentage, born in the city of Caraccas, but educated in Europe. It was by his heroic exertions the republic of Columbia had been established, and he generously lent his aid to establish the independence of Peru. Bolivar was a man of splendid abilities and magnanimous dispositions. Brave, eloquent, energetic, and untiring, he never ceased to struggle, often under the most disheartening reverses, against the yoke of Old Spain, till he finally achieved the deliverance of his country. He seems, however, not to have been so successful in civil government as in his military enterprises. An ardent lover of fame, the Columbians were apprehensive he might tread in the steps of Napoleon, rather than those of Washington. It was to quiet these apprehensions that Bolivar, in the preceding April, had resigned the office of president, and which, he said, he did to remove all suspicion of his ambition, and with a sincere wish to promote the welfare of the republic. The people soon became sensible that they had done their great leader injustice, and his restoration was only prevented by his premature death.

21. Trial of the French ministers. Polignac, Peyronnet, Chantelauze, and Raville, for high treason, concluded; being found guilty, they were sentenced to perpetual imprisonment. Accusations had also been carried in the chamber of deputies against the other ministers M. M. D'Haussez, Capelle, and Montbel, who, more fortunate than their colleagues, had succeeded in their flight. The trial began on the 15th, and the duration of each sitting was from ten in the morning till four in the afternoon. About 160 peers were generally present. The first three days were devoted to examining the accused and to hearing and reading the evidence; the remainder of the time was occupied by the speeches

of the commissioners appointed by the chamber of deputies to conduct the prosecution, and by the defences of the counsel for the several prisoners.

26. General Lafayette resigns the command of the national guard of France.

**INCENDIARY FIRES.**—The distressed condition of the agricultural population led to a novel species of outrage in the autumn of this year. The rioters did not assume the character of mobs, nor did they profess to seek any political object. Their attacks were directed against private property. Night after night, fires were lighted up by bands of incendiaries; corn-stacks, barns, farm-buildings, and live-stock were indiscriminately consumed. Bolder bands attacked mills and destroyed the machinery; and all threshing machines, in particular, were condemned. Threatening letters were circulated, demanding the raising of wages or the disuse of machinery; and the nightly exploits of the writer, insured attention to their demands. These disorders began in Kent almost before its harvest was over; and during October, November, and December extended into the counties of Hants, Wilts, Bucks, Sussex, and Surrey. Throughout the whole of this district, all protection for property seemed at an end. Bands of rioters pillaged and destroyed during the day; and so soon as night fell, simultaneous conflagrations, starting up in different quarters, spread over the country havoc and dismay. The military force in the disturbed counties was increased; a proclamation was issued offering a reward of 500*l.* for the conviction of any person concerned in fire-raising, and special commissions were appointed to proceed into the shires where the outrages had been committed.

**ANNUAL OBITUARY.**—Carlotta Joachima, queen-dowager of Portugal, 53; daughter of Charles IV., of Spain; married in 1790 to the late John VI. In a duel, in Battersea Fields, Oliver Clayton, author of several pamphlets and of "Ten Miles round London." W. Eyton Tooke, B.A., 24, a member of the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge: over-exertion in literary pursuits is supposed to have produced a morbid state of the brain, which terminated in madness. Theodosia Beauchamp, wife of Barry O'Meara, medical attendant on Napoleon at St. Helena. She was the only daughter of Sir E. Boughton, and married, for her first husband, in 1777, captain Donellan, who was hung at Warwick, April 4, 1781, for having, in the hope of inheriting the fortune, poisoned his wife's only brother, sir T. E. A. Boughton. This he effected by prussic acid distilled from laurel leaves, which he contrived should be administered, in lieu of medicine, by the



mother of his victim. Inheriting the fortune her first husband had thus procured, her second husband was Sir E. Leigh, (*Ann. Reg.* lxxii., 250.) He died at Bath in 1818, and in 1823, she married Mr. O'Meara. At his lodgings, in Hanover-street, by suicide, lord Graves, 54, commissioner of excise: he had lived separate from lady Graves some time, and some rumour, not creditable to her ladyship, had a fatal termination. At Paris, M. Benjamin Constant, 63, celebrated political writer and member of the chamber of deputies. Nathaniel Brassey Halhed, 79, eminent orientalist and author of several learned works, illustrative of Hindoo history and literature. Mr. Halhed obtained a seat in the house of commons, and exhibited a melancholy instance of mental delusion in his persevering patronage of the prophet Brothers, whose confinement in Bedlam he denounced as tyrannical, and, at the same time, wrote a book to vindicate the reveries of the crazy enthusiast. At Paris, Marshal Gouvion St. Cyr, 66, author of "Memoirs of the Italian Wars." Lady Augusta de Ameland, fourth daughter to the earl of Dunmore; married at Rome, in 1793, to the duke of Sussex, which ceremony was repeated in England, but void by the Royal Marriage Act. A son, Augustus D'Este, and a daughter by his royal highness, survived her ladyship. At Perugia, in Italy, Hippolyto Bendo, 124; abstemious in eating, but drank regularly six bottles of wine per day. At Paris, F. A. Winsor, 67, founder of the gas-light and coke company in London and of the first gas company established in Paris. At Camberwell, Samuel Favell, 70, many years an active and useful member of the common council of London. At St. Leu, Louis Henry de Bourbon, prince of Condé, 75; the prince terminated his existence by hanging himself, under the excitement produced by the July revolution. He bequeathed property to the amount of fifteen millions of francs to the baroness of Feucheres an Englishwoman, with whom he lived. The rest of his immense wealth was left to the duke d'Aumale, third son of the king of the French. In Finsbury, John Milward, 95, many years an active magistrate of Middlesex. He left 75,000*l.* to various charities of the metropolis, and the residue of his property to the London Hospital. James Humphrey, eminent lawyer and juridical writer; author of "Observations on the English Law of Real Property," a work that drew much attention. John Crowder, 74, alderman of London and part proprietor of the Public Ledger, newspaper. Lord Henley, 78, diplomatist. At Paris, countess de Genlis, 84, a French lady of great literary celebrity. She was governess to the children of the duke de Chartres, with whom

a *liaison* is reported to have subsisted. The duke was father to Louis Philip. Sir Thomas Lawrence, 71, celebrated portrait painter. The professional income of this popular artist was estimated at from 10,000*l.* to 15,000*l.* a-year, notwithstanding which, he died in embarrassed circumstances, chiefly from his profuse expenditure in the purchase of scarce and valuable works of art. John Mitford, Baron Redesdale, 82, late lord chancellor of Ireland; an able lawyer and legal writer.

#### A. D. 1831. Jan. SPECIAL COMMISSIONS.

—The two special commissions appointed at the close of the past year to try the rioters and incendiaries, completed in the present month their painful duty. On the 9th, judgment of death was recorded against 23 prisoners for the destruction of a paper-machine in Buckinghamshire; in Dorset, on the 11th, against 3 for extorting money and two for robbery; at Norwich, 45 persons were convicted of machine-breaking and rioting; at Ipswich, 3 for extorting money; at Petworth, 26 for machine-breaking and rioting; at Gloucester, upwards of 30; at Oxford, 29; and at Winchester, out of 40 convicted, six were left for execution, of whom, however, only two were executed. At Salisbury, 44 prisoners were convicted, of whom two were executed on the 25th. Altogether, upwards of 800 offenders were tried; and all of those convicted were, with the exception of the four executed, sentenced to various terms of transportation and imprisonment. The prosecutions were firmly but discreetly conducted; and they checked the outrages against property, especially in the southern counties.

10. Trial and conviction of Richard Carlile for a libel, tending to excite the agricultural labourers to riot and the destruction of property. He was sentenced to two years' imprisonment in the Compter, to pay a fine of 200*l.*, and to find sureties to keep the peace for ten years.

12. The *cholera Morbus*, which had been fatally prevalent at Moscow, extended to St. Petersburg.

*Feb.* 1. At the anniversary meeting of the Birmingham political union, Mr. Attwood stated that the union had now on its books 9000 individuals paying from 4*s.* to 2*l.* 2*s.* each.

3. Parliament re-assembled. Earl Grey, in the lords, and Viscount Althorp, in the commons, announced that a plan of parliamentary reform had been agreed upon by ministers, which would be introduced by lord John Russell.

Duke of Nemours elected king of Belgium. The French king refusing his consent, lest the jealousy of other powers might be excited, the election became void.

7. The New Testament presented to the king, at Brighton, printed in gold, on porcelain paper, and, for the first time, successfully executed on both sides.

9. A meeting of the subscribers to a fund to erect a monument to the memory of the celebrated John Locke. The subscription had been open since 1806, and amounted only to 846*l.*; which being insufficient to defray the expense of a monument in St. Paul's or Westminster Abbey, it was resolved to erect one in the London University.

11. Lord Althorp brought forward the BUDGET. It was proposed to abolish 210 places. The taxes on tobacco, newspapers, and advertisements to be reduced; those on coals, candles, printed cottons, and other articles, abolished. Reductions estimated at 4,080,000*l.*; the new duties to be imposed at 2,740,000*l.* It was proposed to tax the transfer of funded property and passengers by steam-boats, but these propositions were abandoned.

12. Messrs. O'Connell, Steele, and Barrett pleaded guilty to fourteen counts of an indictment, charging them with holding political meetings contrary to the proclamation of the lord lieutenant. The act under which they were convicted expired, pending the general election of this year, before they were called up for judgment, so that they escaped punishment.

19. St. John Long, against whom a verdict of manslaughter had been returned by a coroner's jury in the case of Mrs. Lloyd, whose death was alleged to have been caused by his medical practice, was tried and acquitted at the Old Bailey. His mode of treatment was by rubbing and unction.

20. Battle of Grochow, near Warsaw, between the Poles and Russians. The conflict was most obstinate; the Russians losing 7000, the Poles 2000 men.

22. New election law introduced into the French chamber of deputies. By this law the elective qualification is reduced from 300 to 240 francs, paid in direct taxes, and that of eligibility to the rank of deputy, from 1000 to 500 francs. This alteration, it is calculated, will augment the number of electors to 210,000.

**MAR. 1. INTRODUCTION OF THE REFORM BILL.**—This important measure was looked forward to with intense interest. It was introduced by lord John Russell in a speech remarkable for accuracy and research. He said the grievances in parliamentary representation, of which the people chiefly complained, were three: first, the nomination of members by individuals; secondly, elections by close corporations; and thirdly, the expenses of elections. It was proposed to meet the first grievance by the disfranchisement of boroughs; 60 bo-

roughs, not having a population of 2000 were to be totally disfranchised; and 47 boroughs, with a population of only 4000, the members returned by each to be reduced to one. Weymouth, which sent four members, was to send two. This would reduce the number of members 168; part of which vacancies were to be supplied by giving representatives to large towns, and by increasing the number of county members. In boroughs, the elective franchise to be extended to householders paying a 10*l.* rent; in counties, to copyholders of 10*l.* a-year, and leaseholders of 50*l.* per annum. Persons already in possession of the right of voting not to be deprived, if actually resident. For lessening the expenses of elections, non-resident electors to be disfranchised, and the duration of elections to be shortened by increasing the facilities for taking the poll. No compensation to be given to the proprietors of the disfranchised boroughs; which was justified under the precedent of the forty-shilling freeholders of Ireland, who had received no compensation for the loss of their votes. As to the duration of parliaments, his lordship seemed favourable to shortening them, but reserved that branch of reform to a future and separate occasion. He expressed doubts of the expediency of voting by ballot, and concluded with moving for leave to bring in a bill for amending the representation in England and Wales. The bill was read a first time without a division, after an animated discussion that lasted seven days. The second reading was carried on the 22nd, after a debate of two days, by a majority of ONE; the numbers being 302 to 301. The chief objections against the bill were, that it reduced the number of the house of commons; that it was founded on the basis of *population*, without reference to property or the payment of taxes; and that it was a robbery of corporations, revolutionary and subversive of the constitution. On the commitment, April 18th, general Gascoyne moved that the number of members ought not to be diminished. For the motion 299, against it 291. Majority against ministers 8. Three days after, ministers were again defeated by 164 to 142, upon a question of adjournment, by which the voting of supplies was postponed. Ministers then tendered the resignation of their offices to the king, which he declined to accept. They next recommended that parliament should be dissolved, to which his majesty assented and promptly executed. In the two protracted discussions on the Reform Bill, the chief speakers *for* the measure were,—lord Althorp, Hume, Macauley, Shiel, lord Morpeth, Gisborne, E. G. S. Stanley, Wyse, sir James Graham, D. O'Connell, Dr. Lushington, lord Ebrington, Hobhouse, lord



Tavistock, lord Palmerston, Tennyson, lord Howick, R. Grant, Harvey, J. Wood, lord Stanley, alderman Waithman, T. Duncombe, H. L. Bulwer, C. Grant, W. Cavendish, Rice, J. Campbell, C. Fergusson, sir T. Denman, and sir W. Horne; *against*,—sir R. Inglis, H. Twiss, lord Gower, sir Charles Wetherell, viscount Mahon, Baring, lord Darlington, C. Wynne, H. Davies, sir R. Peel, col. Sibthorpe, sir G. Clerk, Tyrrell, North, W. Y. Peel, Bethell, Praed, M. Attwood, sir J. Yorke, Goulburn, Courtenay, Croker, Calcraft, G. Bankes, K. Douglas, serg. Lefroy, sir G. Warren, Cartwright, sir R. Vyvyan, V. Stuart, sir E. Sugden, lord Valletort, sir J. Shelley, Shaw, sir James Scarlett, sir T. Acland, general Gascoyne, Sadler, lord Stormont, sir R. Wilson, and S. G. Price.

10. Entry of the Austrian troops into Modena for the purpose of suppressing the insurrection there. They subsequently took possession of other revolted places, and succeeded in restoring the authorities that had been deposed.

13. M. Lafitte and most of his colleagues resigned: the former succeeded by M. Casimir Perier. Sebastiani and Soult retained their places at the head of the foreign and war departments. A more firm resistance to the movement party was the anticipated policy of the new ministry.

31. The Russians defeated at Wawz, with the loss of 14,000 men, after a battle of two days, by the Poles under general Skrzynecki. Loss of the Poles inconsiderable.

*April 7.* Revolution in Brazil. The emperor, Don Pedro, abdicated in favour of his son, Don Pedro II., a child five years old, and embarked with the rest of his family on board a British ship of war. A regency was appointed to act in the name of the young emperor. Jealousy of the constitutionalists, whom the emperor had patronised, and who had arrived in great number in Brazil, after the triumph of his brother Miguel over the emperor's daughter, Donna Maria, queen of Portugal, was the chief cause of the discontents of the Brazilians. The military joined the natives in their defection.

7. Miss Foote, the popular actress, married to the earl of Harrington.

22. Parliament prorogued by the king, and the next day dissolved. His majesty said he had determined on this step, to take the sense of the people on a change in the representation. The anti-reformers deprecated dissolution, and a tumultuous altercation between them and their opponents was only interrupted by the sudden arrival of the king. London and most other towns were illuminated in consequence, and the windows of the lords Wellington and Lon-

donderry, sir R. Peel, sir Robert Wilson, and others opposed to the reform bill, were broken by the populace. During the six months' duration of the Wellington parliament, the chief measures that had been completed were the repeal of taxes and the settlement of the civil list. The last was fixed at 510,000*l.*, which reduction was effected by transferring the charges unconnected with the royal maintenance and dignity to the other departments of the public expenditure. The civil list pensions were limited to 75,000*l.* An addition of 7,680 men was made to the army, and 3,000 to the navy. These augmentations were rendered necessary by the disturbed state of the agricultural districts, and the agitation in Ireland.

23. Duke William of Brunswick assumes the sovereignty, with the consent of the king of England and the German Diet, owing to the incapacity of his brother.

30. A Polish corps, under Dwernicki, being hard pressed by the Russians, retreated into Austrian Galicia, and, surrendering to the Austrian authorities, were treated as prisoners and sent into Hungary.

*May 4.* A British fleet appearing in the Tagus obtains the redress of certain grievances, which, before its arrival, had been refused by the Portuguese government.

6. At a review of the second regiment of life guards in Windsor Park, the king presented them with a pair of silver kettle-drums, weighing 1900 ounces. It is the first royal donation of the kind since George III. presented, in 1789, kettle-drums of silver to the Blues.

10. Certain districts of the counties of Clare, Galway, Roscommon, and Tipperary proclaimed in a state of disturbance. Large bodies had for some time assembled to *turn-up* pasture land for the alleged purpose of creating employment.

13. Ikey Solomons, a notorious thief and receiver of stolen goods, sentenced at the Old Bailey to 14 years' transportation.

26. The subscriptions raised in England to relieve distress in Ireland amount to 60,000*l.*, independent of the assistance afforded by government.

28. A coroner's inquest which had been sitting for some days on the bodies of several persons who had been killed in an affray with the police, at Castlepollard, in Ireland, returned a verdict against the chief constable, and 18 of the police, of having caused the death of the said persons, by firing at them. The grand jury subsequently ignored the bills preferred against them for murder, and the relations refusing to proceed against them for manslaughter, the prosecution was abandoned.

GENERAL ELECTION.—An appeal having been made to the people, the greatest excitement prevailed during the elections.

The reform bill was considered the king's measure as well as that of his ministers, and for the time the country was divided into two parties; those in favour of the bill and those against it: the former constituted an overwhelming majority of the nation, comprising a union of all the different classes of parliamentary reformers, who joined, during the elections, in one common rallying cry of "The bill, the whole bill, and nothing but the bill." In Ireland, two pledged supporters of the bill were elected for Dublin. Scotland became unusually agitated, and Mr. Jeffrey, the lord advocate, was returned amidst much tumult for Edinburgh. In England, the anti-billmen were signally defeated. Mr. Banks was rejected in Dorsetshire; Sir R. Vyvyan in Cornwall; sir E. Knatchbull in Kent; sir T. Acland in Devonshire. In the city of London, all the four members were pledged to support the bill. Out of the eighty-two county members for England, all were pledged to the bill, with the exception of about half-a-dozen returned by the counties of Westmoreland, Bucks, Salop, Huntingdon, and Monmouth. The opponents to the ministerial measure stood nowhere with vigour, except in the universities, where the church authority predominates; and popular enthusiasm proved more than a match for the anti-bill proprietors of boroughs, even in the existing defective state of parliamentary representation.

June 3. Paganini, the celebrated violin-player, gave his first concert at the Opera House with great success.

4. Prince Leopold elected king of Belgium by the congress at Brussels.

Disturbances among the workmen employed in the iron works at Merthyr Tydvil, owing to low wages and the high price of provisions. The riot act being read, instead of dispersing, they made an attack on the military, who firing, several of the rioters were killed and wounded.

6. Duncan M'Craig, a minister of the Scottish church, convicted at Edinburgh of stealing books, and sentenced to be transported for 14 years.

7. The Old Boar's Head, in Great East Cheap, the scene of many of Shakespeare's stories, removed, to make way for the approaches to the New London Bridge.

8. Upwards of 3,000 men assembled to destroy the enclosures in the forest of Dean, under a mistaken notion that every 21 years they had a right to level them; the rioters succeeded in destroying fifty miles of wall and fences, and throwing open 10,000 acres of plantation.

10. Proclamation in the *Gazette* requiring all vessels coming from the Baltic to perform quarantine, owing to the prevalence

of the *cholera morbus* in Russia and adjacent parts.

13. Sailed from the London Docks for Canada, with their wives and families, 300 Chelsea pensioners; they had received four years' pay and grants of land from the British government. There were, also, along with them, several passengers going out at the expense of their parishes, and mechanics and tradesmen paying their own passage.

14. NEW PARLIAMENT met and re-elected C. M. Sutton, speaker. It was opened by the king, in person, on the 21st. He recommended to their consideration the expediency of a reform in the representation; announced the continuance of amicable relations with foreign powers; the settlement of the affairs of Belgium; and adverted to disturbances in Ireland, and the *cholera morbus* in Russia. Addresses were agreed to in both houses without a division.

18. At Newtonbarry in Ireland, in a seizure for tithes, thirty-five persons killed or severely wounded by the yeomanry, who began firing on the multitude without orders. A coroner's jury, which sat on the dead, was discharged without giving a verdict.

22. Two young men found drowned in the Serpentine. One was a gentleman, the other a pickpocket, in whose pockets were found a coral necklace, 26 handkerchiefs, a pocket book, and 26 pawnbrokers' duplicates. The pickpocket fell a victim to his humanity—so inconsistent is human nature—by diving after the other sufferer, with a view to save him.

24. REFORM BILL.—Lord John Russell a second time obtained leave to introduce this measure, and adverted to the opinions of Chatham, Pitt, and Fox, in favour of improving the representative system. To afford time to bring forward the reform bills for Scotland and Ireland, the second reading was deferred to July 4th, when an elaborate debate ensued, in which sir James Macintosh, Macauley, sir R. Peel, the Bulwers, lord Althorp, Wm. Brougham, and sir F. Burdett shone conspicuous. It continued three nights, ending on the third, and the house dividing, 367 for the second reading, 231 against it; majority, 136 in favour of the bill. It was next committed and underwent a long, severe, but beneficial scrutiny; every clause was carefully discussed as it arose; imperfections were discovered, acknowledged and remedied: these occupied the house almost uninterruptedly till the 19th September, when on the third reading there was another eloquent display of three nights, in which sir James Scarlett, Macauley, Croker, J.



Williams, C. Wynn, Crampton, and Pemberton mingled. The house divided—for the bill, 345; against it, 236; majority, 109. The bill then passed the commons amid loud cheers, and next day was taken up to the lords by upwards of 100 members, headed by lords Althorp and Russell.

29. Common council of London withdrew their objection to the admission of Jews to the freedom of the city.

July 4. Robert Taylor found guilty of blasphemy after a twelve hours' trial. He was sentenced to two years' imprisonment in the county gaol of Surrey, and to pay a fine of 200*l*.

7. Mr. Cobbett tried for a libel in his *Political Register*, the tendency of which, it was alleged, was to excite the peasantry to the destruction of property. After the jury had been locked up fifteen hours they were discharged by the judge, as there was no likelihood of agreeing in their verdict.

11. Portuguese government having refused satisfaction for injuries committed on French subjects by the Portuguese authorities, the passage of the Tagus was forced by admiral Roussin, and the Portuguese fleet, lying off Lisbon, taken possession of. This compelled the court of Lisbon to submit to the terms dictated by the French, which included the dismissal of some Portuguese functionaries, an indemnity for expenses incurred by the expedition, the reversal of all sentences pronounced against Frenchmen for political opinions, and the publication of these humiliating terms in the Lisbon Gazette.

14. At Winchester, Mr. Deacle recovers 50*l*. damages against Messrs. Bingham Baring and Francis Baring, magistrates, for false imprisonment.

16. Hon. W. L. Wellesley committed by the Lord Chancellor for contempt of court, in having withdrawn his daughter from the custody of the persons appointed by the Court of Chancery.—(See p. 827.) Mr. Wellesley, after having remained several days in confinement, submitted to the court, and, having restored his daughter, was discharged.

19. After the erection of major Cartwright's statue in Burton Crescent, nearly 600 of his admirers dined at the White Conduit House. Sir F. Burdett and Mr. O'Connell were present, and Mr. Hume in the chair.

Aug. 1. Opening of New London Bridge; the king and queen attended the ceremony, going by water in state. An elegant pavilion was erected on the bridge, in which a splendid banquet was prepared for their majesties and other guests. The time occupied in the erection of this masterly structure, from the driving of the first pile,

had been seven years, five months, and thirteen days. The fall of water at the ebbing of the tide, which was formerly so dangerous, has been completely remedied by the increased waterway afforded by the removal of the cumbrous piers of the old bridge.

2. Awful fire at Pera, a suburb of Constantinople, in which the hotels of the foreign embassies, with a number of churches and 5000 houses, fell a prey to the flames.

12. The Dutch recommenced hostilities against the Belgians, and, attacking them at Louvaine, compelled them, under the command of king Leopold, to retreat. The advance of a French army towards Brussels deterred the Hollanders from pursuing their victory.

17. *Rothsay Castle*, steam-boat, plying between Liverpool and Beaumaris, wrecked in the night with nearly 200 passengers and crew on board, of whom only 22 were saved. The captain and mate seem to have been intoxicated and the vessel not seaworthy.

19. A bronze statue erected in Hanover-square to the memory of the late Mr. Pitt, on a pedestal of granite: the statue is ten feet high and weighs four tons. Mr. Chantrey is the sculptor.

Sept. 7. After two days' hard fighting, Warsaw capitulated and was taken possession of by the Russians.

8. Coronation of their majesties. There was a royal procession from St. James's palace to Westminster Abbey, but there was no banquet in Westminster Hall. A grand dinner given at St. James's. In the evening the illuminations in the metropolis were splendid and general; the theatres, Vauxhall Gardens, and many places of public entertainment were open free of expense, and a display of fire-works took place in Hyde Park, which attracted an immense concourse of spectators.

21. The copyright of sir Walter Scott's miscellaneous prose-works, which comprise six volumes 8vo., sold by auction for 240*l*. The manuscripts of the Waverley novels had been previously sold at Evans's. The Monastery, bound in green morocco, brought 18*l*.; the Antiquary, 42*l*.; Rob Roy, 50*l*.

Oct. 7. REFORM BILL REJECTED BY THE LORDS.—Earl Grey moved the second reading of the bill on the 3rd. In opening the measure to their lordships, he appeared deeply affected by the weight of personal responsibility it imposed upon him. He said the great object of his political life had been parliamentary reform; but if the present measure had the revolutionary tendency some imputed to it, he would not defend, much less propose it. He next

traced the growth of the spirit of reform; its present irresistible power; affirmed that the representative franchise was not a property but a trust which had been perverted; expressed his attachment to the church and its ministers; and, after describing and defending the leading points of the bill, concluded with declaring that ministers were resolved to stand or fall by the present measure. Loud cheers followed the close of his lordship's address. After which lord Wharncliffe rose. He did not defend the nomination boroughs, but described portions of the bill as hurtful to the agricultural interest and subversive of the power of the crown and the lords. He concluded by moving an amendment, "That this bill be rejected;" which, being considered unnecessarily offensive, it was altered,—"*That it be read this day six months.*" The amendment having been seconded and put from the woolsack, one of the most memorable discussions in parliamentary history followed. For skill, force, and variety of argument; for historical, constitutional, and scholastic illustration, it was never surpassed. That some reform was necessary appeared to be generally conceded, and both sides of the noble assembly maintained their opinions with the dignified consciousness of rectitude of intention, and the most laudable patience and temper. Besides Grey and Wharncliffe, the chief speakers for the bill were,—Brougham, Lansdowne, Melbourne, Holland, Mulgrave, Plunkett, Richmond, Roseberry, Radnor, Goderich, and the duke of Sussex; against,—Harrowby, Wellington, Dudley, Carnarvon, Eldon, Buckingham, Mansfield, Bute, Winchelsea, Haddington, Londonderry, Tenterden, Falmouth, Lyndhurst, Wynford, Harewood, the duke of Gloucester, and the archbishop of Canterbury. The debate, which began on Monday, was continued for five nights, and only closed about five o'clock on Saturday morning; when the house divided—contents 158; non-contents 199; majority against the bill 41. Of this majority, 21 were contributed by the bench of bishops. The bill being thus thrown out, the question—*what will the lords do?*—which had been earnestly and anxiously asked during the preceding months, was answered. It produced a strong and indignant feeling through the country. Some of the London newspapers were arrayed in mourning, and several noble lords who had opposed the bill were assaulted by the populace. At Derby they broke open the town gaol, and demolished the property of the anti-reformers of the place. At Nottingham there was considerable rioting, which ended in the destruction, by fire, of the ancient castle there, the property of the duke of

Newcastle. His grace had become unpopular, and unintentionally given a great impulse to reform by his hasty declaration, in respect of his dependent voters, at Newark, that he had "a right to do what he pleased with his own." These excesses and a few burnings in effigy were the first outbreaks of popular rage; but, in general, there was confidence in the ultimate success of the bill, and a disposition on the part of the people and the political societies, now in action, to support the government and preserve the peace.

9. ASSASSINATION OF CAPO D'ISTRIAS. —This outrage was committed as the president of Greece was entering the church of Napoli di Romania, by two sons of the old Greek bey Mavromichali, in revenge for the humiliation of their family by the arbitrary assumption of power by Capo D'Istrias. The president had been in authority since 1827, and his first measures had been popular, tending to the peace and improvement of the country. Latterly he had manifested a disposition to establish a perpetual dictatorship, under the auspices of Russia. He abolished the popular form of government, and established a council called the Panhellenium, which was wholly under his control. All the constitutionalists, who had risked life and property in the protracted struggle with the Turks, were excluded from his confidence. When the deputies waited upon him to propose calling a national assembly, in order to establish a free government, he told them they were not fit for liberty. Of this last, the Greeks had unhappily given too many proofs, but, though unfit for liberal institutions, they merited a better form of rule than a naked despotism, supported by foreign influence, and for the sole benefit of the count and his own servile adherents.

10. FRENCH HEREDITARY PEERAGE. —A reform of the chamber of peers by the abrogation of hereditary peerages, and the appointment of a senate for life, the members of which should possess, from their personal characters, a solid claim to the public confidence, was a leading object with the French nation. A measure for this purpose was carried in the chamber of deputies on the 10th, by a majority of 324 to 86; and, to facilitate its progress in the upper chamber, upwards of thirty new peerages were created. In the following January the peerage law was promulgated with the royal sanction. In it was contained a classification of the persons to whom the king's choice was to be restricted in the future creating of peers, accompanied by a provision that no allowance or pension shall be attached to the dignity, as formerly was too frequent, for its support.



All future peers must, therefore, have distinguished themselves in a military, legal, administrative, or commercial career, to entitle them to such honour; from which the needy favourites of the court and disgraced ministers are excluded.

16. Disturbance in the chapel of the Rev. E. Irving, near Gray's Inn-lane, occasioned by a Miss Hall holding forth in what was denominated an "*unknown tongue*." She was removed to the vestry. In the afternoon, Mr. Irving regretted that he had not suffered her to proceed in her mystic prophecies in the body of the temple. On this a schoolmaster rose, and commenced, in the same unknown gibberish, soothsaying. A scene of confusion ensued, the whole congregation rising from their seats in affright, while Mr. Irving listened with great composure to these unintelligible pourings of the spirit.

20. Parliament prorogued by the king, who intimated the necessity of resuming in the ensuing session the subject of a constitutional reform in the house of commons. Besides the discussion of this vital question, bills had been passed for legalising the sale of corn by weight, in lieu of measure; for allowing the sale of game; and lord chancellor Brougham's important act, establishing the Bankruptcy Court, was passed.

21. The Asiatic cholera having extended its ravages from Moscow to Hamburg, the London *Gazette* contained precautions to be adopted against the spread of this dreadful pestilence. The establishment of a Board of Health in every town, to correspond with the board in London, and to consist of magistrates, clergy, and two or three of the faculty of medicine; large towns to be divided into districts, with committees of inspection. Cleanliness and free ventilation were strongly recommended; the immediate burning of old rags, paper, cordage, clothes, hangings, &c.; copious use of soap and water to furniture, clothes, and person; chloride of lime and water to drains and sinks, &c.; hot lime-wash to the walls and roofs; and every particle of filth to be carefully removed.

29. RIOTS IN BRISTOL.—This city suddenly became the scene of dreadful excesses on the public entrance of sir Charles Wetherell, the recorder. Sir Charles had been a strenuous opponent, in the house of commons, of the reform bill. The riots began on Saturday, continued through the whole of Sunday, and were only got under on Monday morning, when the corporation, the military, and the citizens awoke from the stupor into which they appear to have been thrown by this unexpected outbreak of popular fury. The

whole of Bristol was on the verge of destruction; the mansion-house, custom-house, excise-office, and bishop's palace, were plundered and set on fire; the toll-gates pulled down; the prisons burst open with sledge hammers, and their inmates, criminals and debtors, set at liberty amidst the exulting shouts of the populace. During the whole of Sunday the mob were the unresisted masters of the city. Forty-two offices, dwelling-houses, and warehouses were completely destroyed, exclusive of public buildings. The loss of property was estimated at half a million. The number of rioters killed, wounded or injured, was about 110. Of about 14 or 16 who lost their lives, three died from the shots or sword-cuts of the military; the rest were mostly the victims of excessive drinking, in the rifled cellars and warehouses, which produced either apoplexy upon the spot, or disabled them from escaping from the flames that they had themselves kindled.

31. Meeting of the London Political Union at the Crown and Anchor, and, by adjournment, in Lincoln's Inn Fields, Sir F. Burdett in the chair. It was agreed to form a national union with branch societies, each having a delegate at the central council. At a subsequent meeting, some discord arose on a proposal that part of the council should consist of representatives from the working-classes. The chairman opposed this, because it assumed a distinction of classes to exist, having separate interests. The proposal, however, was adopted; after this, and on the alleged ground of an appearance of permanency in the union, sir Francis withdrew his name from the association. A resolution was proposed in favour of universal suffrage, which not being supported by the middle class, the work-people formed a political union among themselves.

Nov. 2. Numerous incendiary fires between this and the 9th, in Cheshire, Yorkshire, and Somersetshire.

4. Several cases of the spasmodic cholera at Sunderland: this was the first appearance of the disease in this country, and is supposed to have been brought from Hamburg by persons who had been permitted to evade the quarantine establishment at Sunderland.

7. Meeting of the political union of the working-classes at White Conduit House, Thomas Wakley, chairman, postponed. The notice convening this assembly, besides demanding universal suffrage, vote by ballot, and annual parliaments, declared, "That all property, *honestly acquired*, is sacred and inviolable; that all men are born equally free and have certain natural and inalienable rights; that all *hereditary distinctions of birth* are unnatural and op-

posed to the equal rights of man, and ought to be abolished;" and they further declared that they would never be satisfied with any law that stopped short of these principles. An intimation from the police magistrates and from lord Melbourne, that a meeting for these objects was not only illegal and seditious, but, perhaps, treasonable, led to its abandonment.

21. Proclamation issued declaring certain affiliated political unions unlawful, and cautioning persons against entering into such combinations.

**DISTURBANCES AT LYONS.**—This great seat of the French silk manufacture became the scene of a terrible commotion. It arose in a dispute on wages; the work-people demanding higher wages than their employers, in the existing depression of the trade, thought they could afford. On the morning of the 21st, the weavers rose in arms, and defeated and disarmed the national guards, and troops of the line marched against them. The workmen in all parts of the town co-operated in the insurrectionary movement by unpaving the streets, raising barricades, and firing on the military from the windows. Overpowering all resistance, the soldiery were entirely driven out of the city, and compelled, under general Roguet, to retire to the heights of Montessuy. Here they waited the arrival of the duke of Orleans and marshal Soult, the minister of war, with reinforcements. The insurgents, sensible that their triumph must be short, conducted themselves with moderation and prudence; took precautions for the protection of property, and invited the deposed civic authorities to return to the city; denying all political motives, and simply demanding such regulations as would secure their bread. A subscription was opened, and the municipal council voted 150,000 francs for the immediate relief of the distressed workmen, and the succour of the wounded. The killed, on both sides, during the bloody conflicts in the streets, was estimated at 500 or 600. Marshal Soult entered Lyons at the head of 26,000 men, disgraced some of the military who had misbehaved, disbanded the national guard, and abolished the tariff of wages, leaving the weavers and their employers to settle the price of labour, without the intervention of the civil power, by free competition.

22. The Birmingham association abandoned their intended plan of organization in consequence of the royal proclamation.

**Dec. 2.** Trial and conviction of Bishop, Williams, and May, at the Old Bailey, for the murder of an Italian boy; May's sentence was commuted for transportation for life, the other wretches were executed. They had long been resurrectionists but had

left the practice of exhuming the dead for the purpose of decoying the living into Bishop's house, where they first administered laudanum to them in rum, and then, in a state of insensibility, suspended their victim by the heels in a well of water, till life was extinct. The bodies were sold to the hospitals for anatomical purposes.

4. Executed at Malaga, with forty-two companions, with whom he had landed there, hoping from the treacherous promises of the governor, Moreno, to effect a successful insurrection against Ferdinand, general Torrijos, the Spanish constitutional leader. Mr. Boyd, an English merchant, was among the sufferers. Subscriptions were subsequently raised for the widow of Torrijos both in this and other countries.

6. **PARLIAMENT** opened by the king. The royal speech recommended the settlement of the reform question; referred to the opposition made to the payment of tithes in Ireland; announced the conclusion of a convention with France for the suppression of the African slave-trade; alluded to the existence of political combinations in England; deplored the excesses at Bristol, and recommended improvements in the municipal police of the kingdom. Addresses in both houses were agreed to without a division.

A suit, to nullify the will of the duke of Bourbon, (see p. 901,) has been instituted in Paris by the princes de Rohan, the heirs of the deceased; it being alleged that the will, which went to bequeath immense wealth to the family of the French king and the baroness de Feuchères, mistress of the superannuated duke, had been procured by improper means, and that the duke had come unfairly by his death. The trial was long, and excited great interest, pending the discussion on the civil list of Louis Philip, but terminated on the 6th in the confirmation of the disputed testament.

12. **THIRD INTRODUCTION OF THE REFORM BILL.**—Lord John Russell, in introducing for the *third* time the parliamentary reform bill, said that government was pledged not to propose a bill less efficient than the former. He then noticed the alterations introduced into the new measure. The censuses of 1821 and 1831 had been objected to, as the basis of borough disfranchisement; instead of population, the number of houses, combined with their value, as rated to the assessed taxes, had been substituted as a better criterion of their importance. The right of voting in boroughs to be determined, not by a 10*l*. poor-rate, which was an uncertain test, but by the occupying a rated tenement of the annual value of 10*l*. The effect of these and other alterations was to lessen the number of the boroughs to be disfran-



chised, and the full complement of 658 members would be maintained. Sir Robert Peel considered these concessions as improvements: the bill was read a first time, and on the 10th a second, after a two days' debate, protracted to one o'clock on Sunday morning. For the second reading, 324; against it, 162; majority 162. House adjourned till after Christmas.

17. Earl of Mar sentenced to two months' imprisonment, at Edinburgh, for shooting at Mr. Oldham, a clergyman. Dispute arose in sporting.

22. Insurrection among the Blacks in Jamaica; martial law proclaimed.

SUICIDES IN PARIS.—A writer in the *Annales d'Hygiène*, who has examined about 9,000 judicial inquests in Paris, from 1796 to 1830, thinks himself warranted in assuming,—1. That philosophical or premeditated suicide takes place in the night, or a little before day-break. 2. That accidental or unpremeditated suicide takes place during the day; because it is then that the occasional causes occur, such as quarrels, bad news, losses at play, intemperance, &c. At every age, man chooses a particular mode of committing suicide. In youth, he has recourse to hanging, which he soon abandons for fire-arms: in proportion as his vigour declines, he returns to his former mode; and it is most commonly by hanging that the old man perishes, who puts an end to his existence.

IRELAND.—The removal of catholic disabilities has failed to produce tranquillity, or alleviate the miseries of the population, Tithe-conflicts between the peasantry and police have become unusually murderous this year, and armed bands traversed the country waging war against oppressive landlords and low-priced labour. Popular discontents were augmented by the partial failure of the potato crop, which left thousands without food or the means of obtaining it. While such elements of exasperation existed, it was vain to expect political agitation to cease, and it was kept up with more ardour than ever, by the Dublin orators. "If the Union," said Mr. Sheil, "is not repealed within two years, I am determined that I will pay neither rent, tithes, nor taxes. They may distraint my goods, but who'll buy?" (*Ann. Reg.* lxxiii. 310.) Between Mr. O'Connell and the lord lieutenant there were unceasing hostilities, one fulminating his proclamations against political meetings, the other seeking to evade them by new forms of agitation. Defeated in his scheme of a procession of the Trades, he summoned his assemblies under new names—a public breakfast, or a district or parish meeting; all of which were successively prohibited by the viceroy. Unable to elude the 'Algerine act,' as Mr. O'Con-

nell termed the law under which he was pursued, abstinence from taxed articles, and a partial run on the banks were attempted; but neither proved effective, a scarcity of money being not less inconvenient than non-consumption to the farmers who had produce to sell in the Irish markets. After many contrivances, the wily agitator was caught in the toils of the law, which, however, he escaped, as already mentioned, though he pleaded guilty to the indictment found against him.

FRANCE.—The violent convulsion of the past year continued its heavings. Louis Philip acted with judgment and firmness, and by a tour through the provinces and other conciliatory acts, sought to establish himself in the confidence of the nation. The new election law, the reduction of the king's civil list to one-third the amount of that of his predecessor, and the abolition of the hereditary peerage, however, failed to satisfy the popular demands. France was divided into three parties. *First*, the adherents of a constitutional monarchy and advocates of peace; among whom were the citizen king, his ministry, a majority of the legislature, and the intelligent and moderate of the community. The *second* was the movement party, consisting of extreme republicans, eager for war, for the emancipation of Poland and Italy, and the annexation of Belgium to France, in defiance of the existing treaties, and reckless of the consequences of such hazardous foreign interventions. The last and smallest party was that of the Carlists or friends of the ex-king, consisting of some of the old nobility, the priests, and those under their influence. The strength of the government was in the middle class, embodied in the national guard. As a precaution against the Buonapartists and Bourbonists, a law was passed, banishing from France the families of Napoleon and Charles X.

POLAND.—This year saw the insurrection of Poland against the domination of Russia brought to a close. The heads of the insurrection had not at first declared any intention of throwing off all subjection to the Russian autocrat; they had demanded only the preservation of the national rights, and the independence of the separate constitution under the sovereignty of the emperor, which had been guaranteed to them by the Congress of Vienna. But the emperor refused to treat with them, unless they would first unconditionally submit to his authority. As more humiliating terms could not be dictated to them after being defeated in battle, the Poles resolved to try the fortune of war. The struggle was nobly maintained, and they were bravely and skilfully commanded by

their successive leaders, Chlopicki, Radziwill and Skrzynecki. But the locality of the insurrection was too circumscribed; it did not spread with enthusiasm in the provinces, and the heroic Poles were overpowered by the superior numbers and resources of their enemies, directed by the ablest of the Russian generals, Diebitsch, Paskewitsch, and Gneisenau. After a series of bloody conflicts, Warsaw capitulated to the Russians, and the Polish corps, no longer able to keep the field against their opponents, withdrew into the adjoining territories of Prussia and Austria.

**BELGIUM AND HOLLAND.**—The plenipotentiaries of the five powers of Britain, France, Austria, Prussia, and Russia, assembled in London, since the preceding December, determined irrevocably on the basis of separation between the two countries. The perplexing point, in this negotiation, had been the disposition of Limburg and the duchy of Luxemburg; the inhabitants, being catholics, were favourable to an union with Belgium, and the Belgians coveted these acquisitions; but the duchy was held by a different title by the house of Nassau, and formed part of the Germanic confederation. At length matters seemed arranged by Holland ceding a portion of the duchy, and Belgium a part of the territory of Limburg. Thus settled, the territorial limits of Holland were determined to be those which formed the republic of the United Provinces in the year 1790. Belgium to consist of the kingdom of the Netherlands, as settled in 1815, including South Brabant, Liege, Namur, Hainault, Western Flanders, Eastern Flanders, Antwerp, and parts of Limburg and Luxemburg. The national debt to be divided in the proportion of about two-thirds to Holland, and one-third to Belgium. Perpetual neutrality of Belgium guaranteed by the five powers, and certain fortresses erected at the expense of the four powers in 1815, as a bulwark against France, to be dismantled. The acceptance of these terms was made compulsory on the belligerents.

**HANOVER.**—There having been symptoms of disaffection in this kingdom in January, the king of England tendered to the States-General a new constitution. The representation to consist of two chambers. The first chamber to consist of the elder princes of the royal family, certain of the hereditary nobility, and persons chosen for life by the king, without reference to rank, birth, or fortune. The second chamber to consist of deputies from the religious houses, from the class of esquires, from cities and towns, and from the classes of landlords, freemen, and peasants, in various boroughs. The members of both chambers,

except the royal princes, to be thirty years of age. Deliberations of the chambers to be open to the public.

**HESSE CASSEL.**—The tumults in this electorate, in 1830, led to the establishment of a new constitution. Restrictions on the press were removed; no one to be persecuted for the expression of mere opinion; the secrecy of letters to be inviolate; no exclusive privileges to be granted to commerce or manufactures; no appointments to any office in the state to be confirmed till the occupant has proved himself competent, and no office to be granted in reversion.

**ANNUAL OBITUARY.**—At Bonn, M. Niebuhr, 53, eminent Roman historian. Rev. Robert Hall, 68, an eloquent dissenting preacher and writer. Henry, earl Mulgrave, 77, a general in the army, and who had held office in the Pitt, Perceval, and Liverpool ministries. At Sydney, in Australia, rev. L. H. Halloran, D.D., 65, a poet and schoolmaster, who had been convicted of forging a frank. Thomas Payne, 79, eminent bookseller, and much respected in the literary world. John Quick, 83, celebrated comedian. John Abernethy, 66, surgeon; popular lecturer and writer on medical subjects, especially the digestive organs. Mrs. Siddons, 75, celebrated tragedian. At his head-quarters, near Pultusk, of cholera, marshal count Diebitsch, 46, distinguished officer in the service of Russia. At Witepsk, of cholera, the archduke Constantine, 52, late viceroy of Poland, and elder brother of the emperor. William Roscoe, 80, late banker of Liverpool, author of the "Life of Lorenzo de Medicis," &c. Mr. Roscoe was among the distinguished men of his time; the friend of humanity, advocate of law reform, the enemy of jobs; "by all the wise admired,—beloved by all the good."—(*Lord Brougham's Speeches*, i. 471.) At New York, James Muuro, 72, late president of the United States. Robert William Elliston, 57, popular comedian. Mr. Elliston excelled in Wildair, Archer, Walter, and Aranza; and carrying the seriousness of Aranza a little further, he was the best Mortimer and the best Macbeth of any comic actor. In comedy, after the death of Lewis, he was without a rival. "He had (says the *Annual Biography*) three distinguished excellencies: dry humour, gentlemanly mirth, and fervid gallantry." At Dublin, John Toler, earl of Norbury, 85. He took an active part in the prosecution of the rebels of 1793, but after the subsidence of civil commotion was famous for wit and drolery, and, besides his own jokes, had also the credit of many of his contemporaries "Lord Norbury's last joke" being a common introduction to a witticism in the



newspapers. His lordship, after a protracted sitting there, only retired from the chief justiceship of the Irish common pleas, in 1827. Sir Benjamin Hobhouse, 74, late first commissioner for investigating the debts of the nabob of the Carnatic. John Calcraft, 65, M.P. for the county of Dorset. Mr. Calcraft was paymaster of the forces under the Wellington ministry, but gave the casting vote in favour of the Reform Bill on its first introduction. He had for some months suffered under depression of spirits and committed suicide. James Northcote, 85, celebrated portrait and historical painter. At Exeter, Colonel John Macdonald, 72, writer on military subjects, and the only son of the celebrated Flora Macdonald, who assisted the Pretender in escaping from the English soldiery in 1746. Archibald Cochrane, earl of Dundonald, 82, an ingenious experimentalist in chemistry and agriculture, who made several useful discoveries, not very profitable to himself, being at one period reduced to absolute penury and obliged to receive pecuniary aid from the Literary Fund. At Coburg, the duchess-dowager of Saxe Coburg, 73, mother of the king of Belgium and the duchess of Kent. At Paris, Pamela, widow of the unfortunate lord Edward Fitzgerald, and daughter of madame de Genlis. Sir A. Hart, 72, late lord chancellor of Ireland. In St. Giles's workhouse, *Jack Mitford*, an eccentric author and irreclaimable drunkard. He had received a classical education; was originally in the navy, and fought under Hood and Nelson. Though formerly a nautical fop, the last few years of his life had been ragged and loathsome. He never thought but of the necessities of the moment, and often slept in the fields, when his finances would not admit of his paying for a two-penny lodging in St. Giles's. His largest work was the history of "Johnny Newcome in the Navy," the publisher of which gave him a shilling a day till he finished it. He edited the "Scourge," "Bon Ton Magazine," and "Quizzical Gazette," and was the author of the popular sea-song, "The king is a true British sailor." He was occasionally befriended—if such an act be possible to such a character—by the late lord Redesdale, on whom he is reported to have had a natural claim.

#### A.D. 1832. PREROGATIVE COPYRIGHTS.

—The enquiries of a parliamentary committee during the session of 1831, elicited some curious facts relative to the copyrights vested in the crown. In England, the exclusive right of printing bibles is enjoyed by the king's printer, concurrently with the two universities; in Ireland, the monopoly of the king's printer is shared with Trinity

College; in Scotland, the whole was in the hands of the king's printer. The late Scotch patent expired in 1838; the Irish will expire in 1851; the English not till 1860. Exclusive of the sale by the universities, the king's printer for England sold in the ten years, from 1821 to 1830 inclusive,—bibles, 569,164; testaments, 637,890; prayer-books, 182,811; psalms, 189,544. The Bible Society and the Naval and Military Bible Society, are the chief purchasers. In 1829, of 51,500 bibles and 75,691 testaments sold by the English patentees, no less a proportion than 45,541 of the former and 68,025 of the latter were bought by these two societies, both of whom are supported by voluntary subscriptions. Several instances of typographical errors were adduced to the committee, in the current edition of the scriptures.

Jan. 2. Chief Justice Tindal opened the commission for the trial of the Bristol rioters. Of 180 rioters taken into custody, 4 were executed and 22 transported.

13. Lieutenant-Colonel Brereton committed suicide pending an inquiry into his conduct by a court-martial. The charges against him were, that he had not displayed, during the Bristol riots, that firmness and decision required in a British officer. A bad state of health, and absence of experience in actual service, seem to have been the leading causes of the colonel's errors. He was fifty-two years old.

17. Parliament met after the holidays.

28. Died at Cheltenham, in his 80th year, Dr. Bell, the introducer into England of the Madras system of education. Shortly before his death, this meritorious divine had transferred very large sums to different bodies for the improvement and diffusion of education. Among the sums so appropriated, were upwards of 100,000*l.* for the establishment of schools in the town of St. Andrew's, where he was born, and 10,000*l.* to the lately erected British Naval School.

31. A General Cemetery, comprising nearly fifty acres, opened on the Harrow Road. It is the first imitation in England of the burial-ground of *Père la Chaise*, so long the admiration of foreigners visiting Paris.

Feb. 13. CHOLERA MORBUS.—A notice issued from the council office, Whitehall, announcing that fatal cases of the Asiatic spasmodic cholera had occurred at Rotherhithe, spread indescribable alarm through the metropolis. Hitherto, this dreadful malady had only made its appearance in the country towns and villages, especially in the north of England. In the dense and luxurious population of the capital, the most frightful mortality was anticipated, and all the horrors which Defoe had de-

picted of the Great Plague rose before the imagination. A bill was hurried through parliament, empowering the Privy Council to make regulations in towns or districts affected or threatened with the pestilence, and that the expenses thereby incurred should be defrayed out of the poor-rates. Parochial and district boards were forthwith organized; temporary hospitals got ready for the reception of the sick; medical persons kept in constant attendance to minister to the afflicted, and the interment of persons dying of the disease was hastened. These demonstrations put the public on the alert, and individuals sought safety by timely precautions. Surgeons and apothecaries, previously unemployed, were overwhelmed with patients, real or imaginary, and the shops of the chymists and druggists were rapidly cleared of their principal contents, especially camphor and other reputed disinfecting agents. Cleanliness and increased attention to the general health may have checked the progress of the malady, or if the precautions adopted were disproportioned to the occasion, it was an excess on the safe side. The physicians were divided in opinion, some contending that no new disease existed, and that it was not contagious. However this may have been, that a virulent cholera existed is unquestionable: its ravages were great in the present and two following months of March and April: it then abated, but again burst forth at the end of summer with more violence than ever. It is probable, that during this second attack, when, from prudential motives, the weekly reports of cases and deaths for London were discontinued, that the disease was most destructive. In the whole year, the deaths from cholera, within the limits of the Bills of Mortality, amounted to 3,200; in the past year of 1831 to only 48. On September 2nd, the amount of cases reported by the Central Board, exclusive of London, was 68,855, and the total of deaths, 24,180. Little was heard of the cholera at the close of November. It next appeared in the Canadas and United States; having thus made the tour of the globe, beginning in Asia, and after devastating Moscow and the northern parts of Europe, visiting the British isles and France, and next crossing the Atlantic may have been lost in the great West country, or absorbed in the monsoon of the Pacific Ocean, or returned to the supposed place of its origin, Hindostan.

23. A French expedition landed at Ancona. Disputes had arisen between the Pope and his liberal subjects, and to render unnecessary any pretext for Austrian intervention, by which papal tyranny would have been augmented, the French, without

giving umbrage to that power, took possession of the citadel. His Holiness protested loudly against the "invasion" of the legations, and both Austria and England manifested symptoms of jealousy at the presence of the French in Italy, which they did not finally evacuate till six years after, when the Austrians withdrew from the papal territories.

26. An ukase of the emperor Nicholas decrees that Poland shall henceforth be incorporated with Russia, but have its separate administration, and its own civil and criminal code of laws. Other measures were adopted in the course of the year for discouraging the use of the French and Polish languages; the university of Warsaw was dissolved, with the exception of the faculties of medicine and theology, and 5,000 families of Polish gentlemen transplanted from the province of Podolia to the line of the Caucasus.

28. The king held a levee, at which an address was presented by the earl of Roden from the protestants of Ireland, against the Irish Reform Bill. It was signed by 230,000 persons, and was of such magnitude, that it required two men to bear it to the royal presence.

Mar. 1. The first carriage for the conveyance of passengers on a railway in France commenced running from St. Etienne to the Loire.

3. Incendiary fires in the neighbourhood of Dunstable, and property to the amount of 5,000*l.* destroyed.

21. A general fast-day. Much disorder was occasioned by persons assembling in Finsbury Square, supposing that meat and bread were to be distributed. Their majesties heard prayers in the grand music room of Windsor Castle. The commons attended at St. Margaret's church and the lords walked in procession to Westminster Abbey, which attracted great numbers of spectators, no such procession having taken place for many years!

27. The cholera broke out with alarming virulence in Paris: 1000 deaths occurred in the first week. It was much more fatal in the French than in the British capital. Of 45,675 deaths in Paris in 1832, the enormous number of 19,000 was occasioned by cholera. The mortality was greatest in the most unhealthy quarters, where the streets are narrow and the houses very lofty. As the pestilence appeared in the capital without previous manifestation in the sea-ports or frontier towns, it strengthened the opinion that the disease was not contagious, but atmospheric or epidemic.

Apr. 1. Riot at Paris, occasioned by the *chiffonniers* refusing to submit to the municipal regulations made for preventing



the spread of the cholera. This class of persons gained a miserable pittance by raking among the sweepings, which the Parisians heaped outside their doors to be removed by the scavengers in the night. As a sanitary precaution, the nuisance was sought to be removed by light carts with more than ordinary dispatch, which the chiffoniers considered as an invasion of their rights. A disturbance ensued, to which the Republicans and Carlists, generally on the watch for an *emeute*, promptly lent their aid. It continued two days, and a printer and several others were wounded in the conflicts with the police and military.

14. REFORM BILL IN THE LORDS.—After an arduous debate, continued through four nights, the second reading of this popular bill was carried at seven o'clock in the morning by a majority of nine, the numbers being, for the bill 184, against it, 175. An accession of fifty votes had been obtained since the rejection of the bill last October. Several bishops had, in the interim, joined the ministers, and a new party, denominated "waverers," had sprung up in the lords, who contributed to carry the second reading, but on whom little dependence could be placed for carrying the bill un mutilated through its ulterior stages. Of the peers actually present only a majority of two voted for the bill, and as proxies are not admitted in committee, the prospect of ministers being able to carry their measure undamaged through this ordeal appeared very precarious. Parliament adjourned on the 18th to May 7, for the Easter holidays.

May 2. A bronze statue of the late Mr. Canning, by Westmacott, placed on its pedestal in Palace-yard. The figure is colossal, and measures twelve feet high; the face considered an admirable likeness, but the loose robe thrown over his shoulders too heavy, and the pedestal too small for the figure it supports.

The Rev. E. Irving excluded from the Scotch Church. He was expelled for heresy concerning the human nature of Jesus Christ, and for allowing the exercise of alleged supernatural gifts in his chapel.

7. Ministers defeated in the lords by a majority of 35, on the motion of lord Lyndhurst that the disfranchising clause should be postponed, and the enfranchising clause first considered: the numbers were 151 to 115. Upon which, earl Grey moved the adjournment of the committee to the 10th.

Great meeting at Birmingham to petition government to pass the Reform Bill un mutilated. The London Political Union met, when 1200 new members enrolled their names. A resolution agreed to, that

no taxes should be paid till the reform bill had been passed.

9. RESIGNATION OF MINISTERS.—The inability of ministers to carry such an efficient measure of reform as they deemed advisable was the avowed ground of their resignation. Previous to this, the popular opinion had been that earl Grey had received ample powers, in case of need, for the creation of peers; but it now appeared that the king's assent so to exercise the royal prerogative had neither been given nor asked, and it was only after the defeat of the 7th that ministers tendered to the crown the alternative of their resignation or an increase of the peerage. To the latter expedient the king was reluctant to resort, and the resignation of the reform ministers was accepted. His majesty then sent for lord Lyndhurst to advise as to what means existed for forming an administration that would carry an "extensive measure of reform," without obliging the king to have recourse to his prerogative of creating peers. On this basis, a communication was opened by the learned lord with the duke of Wellington and sir Robert Peel. Without being minister himself, the duke offered his services to support the administration of sir R. Peel, and, though still disapproving of all reform, take as much of the reform bill as his grace could carry through the upper house of parliament. Further than this, the duke could not consistently nor even decently lend his aid, his own recent declaration still sounding in the public ear that "no reform was required, and that while he was minister none should be attempted." The clear understanding, however, imposed by the terms of the royal commission was that if sir Robert Peel accepted the premiership, he must support an extensive reform. To this official condition the baronet's objections were insuperable. "He had," he said, "never ceased to be opposed to the bill, and had argued against its revolutionary character. He would not consent to pass it as it was; and with the majority against him he had no hope of being able to modify it."—(*House of Commons, May 18th*.) The overture to sir Robert having wholly failed, and the impossibility of forming an administration that was at all likely to endure being self-evident, the duke of Wellington recommended to the king to recall his former servants. The conditions on which the Whigs resumed office on the 18th were honourable to their firmness and integrity. They were, that the bill should be carried into effect "unimpaired in all its principles, and uninjured in all its essential provisions;" and the royal assurance was obtained that so far as it depended upon the king, the "means

of conducting the bill to a successful issue should not be wanting."—(*Earl Grey, House of Lords, May 17 and 18.*) After this declaration, and the receipt of a private message from the king, the anti-bill peers professed to consider their deliberative wisdom controlled by an irresistible power, and rather than have their house "swamped" by new creations withdrew their opposition to the further progress of the bill. Other causes contributed essentially to the successful issue of this great legislative struggle. Pending the ministerial interregnum of nine days, lord Ebrington's motion was carried by a large majority of the commons, expressive of confidence in the ministers and regret at their resignation. Out of doors, the country was in a very alarming state of unanimity. The tide set all in one direction. Against the bill there was neither moral nor physical force. About its ultimate success no one affected to doubt; that was deemed certain because the nation had willed it. The newspapers were almost entirely on the popular side, and kept up a raking fire against the "Oligarchy" and "usurping Borough-mongers." At London, Birmingham, Manchester, and other large towns simultaneous meetings were held to petition the house of commons to stop the supplies. In the metropolis, placards were everywhere exhibited, enjoining the union of all friends to the cause—an enforcement of the public rights at all hazards—and a general resistance to the payment of taxes, rates, and tithes. The political societies were in active communication, and at their meetings and in the leading daily journals projects for *organizing* and *arming* the people were openly discussed and recommended. In case of need, the population of the large towns was ready to be precipitated on the metropolis. But this extremity was rendered unnecessary. The firm and generous devotion of William IV. to "an extensive reform," whether carried by Whigs or Tories, deprived the hostile section of the aristocracy of the sole fulcrum, by which, with the least chance of success, it could hope to resist the universal sentiment. The date of the subjoined regal circular, which has been alluded to above, addressed to the peers by the king's private secretary, sir Herbert Taylor, will show the time when the great state screw, in possession of the crown, was applied to the upper chamber:—

"*St. James's Palace, May 17, 1832.*

"MY DEAR LORD,—I am honoured with his Majesty's commands to acquaint your Lordship, that all difficulties to the arrangements in progress will be obviated by a declaration in the House to-night from a

sufficient number of peers, that, in consequence of the present state of affairs, they have come to the resolution of dropping their further opposition to the Reform Bill, so that it may pass without delay, and as nearly as possible in its present shape.

"I have the honour to be,

"Your's sincerely,

"HERBERT TAYLOR."

The triumph of the Reform Bill was now assured: its clauses passed rapidly through the committee of the lords with merely verbal and elucidatory amendments, and on the 4th June, on earl Grey moving that it be read a third time, the question was carried by 106 to 22.

May 15. Died at Paris, of cholera, aged 54, M. CASIMIR PERIER, the able prime minister of France. M. Perier was a banker and extensive proprietor of manufacturing, out of which he had realized immense riches. He had taken a resolute and intrepid part in the overthrow of the government of Charles X., and was the firm friend of regulated freedom. As a minister of Louis Philip he deprecated anarchy and foreign war; and in an eloquent address to the chamber of deputies, March 7, vindicated the pacific and conservative policy of his administration. He was succeeded in office and in political principles by marshal Soult, the minister-of-war.

On the same day died of paralysis at Paris, aged 63, BARON CUVIER, the great comparative anatomist.

30. DEATH OF SIR JAMES MACINTOSH. —The health of this amiable man and eloquent writer and statesman, which was never robust, had suffered by his residence in India. His death, however, which took place at his house in Langham Place, London, was hastened by the feverish excitement produced by the small bone of a fowl lodging in his throat. He was born in 1765, at Aldourie on the banks of Loch Ness within seven miles of Inverness. His father was a military captain, and from him he inherited a small estate, which for two centuries had been in the family. He was not fortunate in his early teachers, they were careless and immethodical. At the Edinburgh university he took the degree of M. D., after which he repaired to London to practise as a physician. On this arena he appears to have attained notoriety with less delay and struggling than commonly awaits the insulated adventurer. His first literary attempt, however, was unsuccessful—it was a pamphlet that nobody read, written in support of the unlimited succession to the regency by the prince of Wales, and was the side of the question Mr. Fox and other



personal friends of his royal highness had espoused, regardless of the parliamentary constitution of the government as settled by the whigs at the revolution. This failure was redeemed by the extraordinary success of his *Vindicæ Gallicæ* in 1791; which, among its other merits, had that of correcting the errors of Mr. Burke relative to the French economists. It raised him at once to a high rank in politics and literature, and made him acquainted with the principal leaders of the opposition. It is, indeed, a masterly performance, written in a style different from that which characterised his subsequent productions, and more in the manner of his gifted opponent; being diffuse, vehement, and metaphorical. About this time he left medicine to devote himself to law, and, in 1795, was qualified to join the home circuit. In the following year he became personally known to Burke, having formed a less flattering estimate of the bearing of the French revolution since writing the *Vindicæ Gallicæ*. "Since that time," he says in a letter to the orator, "a melancholy experience has undeceived me on many subjects in which I was then the dupe of my own enthusiasm." There was nothing remarkable in this transition of sentiment in a young man, nor even in an old one, after the political lessons afforded by the intervening five years; but Mackintosh has been accused of turning sharply on his co-disciples in error, and of having formed an exaggerated estimate both of the duration and magnitude of the calamities produced in France, by an excess of confidence in popular intelligence. His first wife was now living. She was the sister of Peter and Daniel Stuart, the respective proprietors of the *Oracle* and *Morning Post*, the former a Pittite, and the latter a Foxite paper. Dr. Parr used to relate that Mackintosh wrote leading articles for each of those journals, suited to their respective politics.—(*Law Magazine*, xvii. 166.) He also wrote in the *Monthly Review*; which literary exertions were necessary to the support of himself and family, his practice at the bar being inconsiderable and little productive. An introductory lecture delivered by him on the Law of Nature and of Nations obtained the marked approval of Mr. Pitt; while his late associate in the cause of liberty, Mr. Godwin, withdrew in astonishment from Lincoln's Inn Hall, on hearing his friend wind up an eloquent period against "the idle theorists who built their expectations upon such absurd chimeras as a golden mountain or a perfect man." This re-action seems to have continued, without any public intimation of abatement, until he returned, in 1812, to England, from the recordership of Bombay,

which appointment he held for eight years, and had obtained from lord Sidmouth through the intervention of Mr. Pitt. He now resumed his connexion with the whigs, having declined a political overture made to him by Mr. Perceval: for, says he, "it had long been my fixed determination not to go into public life on any terms inconsistent with the principles of liberty, which are now higher in my mind than they were twenty years ago."—(*Memoirs by his Son*, ii. 246.) Sir James continued steadfastly to act with this party to the end of the war, and during fifteen years of peace; when, on the formation of earl Grey's ministry, he received a subordinate place at the India Board! He had refused the same appointment eighteen years before, and it was generally considered immeasurably below his deserts, especially in contrast with others who were included in the cabinet. For this neglect various reasons have been assigned. One of the strongest is that sir James was unfit to be placed at the head of any department; in matters of business he was negligent and remiss in the extreme; though splendidly eloquent on set occasions, he was not a ready debater; while, as a practical man, in all that related to the details of measures and the conducting of them through the house of commons, he was singularly helpless and incompetent. Moreover he was not a decided partisan of any denomination. The whigs had the largest share of his affections, but he felt no marked dislike towards the tories. In politics he inclined to universal toleration; balanced and too often indulged the over-refining cautiousness,

"——— the craven scruple,

Of thinking too precisely of the event;"

belonging to the class whom Bacon impugns because they "object too much, consult too long, adventure too little, and seldom drive business home." Right or wrong, this was his settled principle, no less than his practice. In his beautiful "Life of Sir Thomas More," he says, "All men, in the fierce contests of contending factions, should, from such an example, learn the wisdom to fear, lest in their most hated antagonist they may strike down a sir Thomas More; for assuredly virtue is not so narrowed as to be confined to *any party*; and we have, in the case of More, a signal example that the nearest approach to perfect excellence does not exempt men from mistakes which we may justly deem mischievous. It is a pregnant proof that we should beware of *hating men for their opinions*, or of adopting their doctrines because we love and venerate their virtues." A philosophical creed, not usually admitted

in party warfare, which requires that animosities should be kept up at the full theological heat, and no virtue in action or motive be conceded to an opponent. A like velvet softness pervaded the moral and metaphysical philosophy of sir James. He inclined to an equitable adjustment of opinions. His mind was amply stored with the collective wisdom of ages; and he loved to hold the scales, and by a constant shifting and sorting of quantities prevent the preponderance of either. In his religious opinions he indulged in a similar seesaw; and, from the description of his latter moments, it is difficult to discern whether he expired an unbeliever or a Christian. His proneness to stand on the *lisière* elicited from Madame de Staël the name of Mr. Harmony; and though his varied knowledge and great colloquial powers were much admired by that erudite lady, she always complained that Mackintosh wanted genius. He was, in truth, not an original producer of intellect any more than a retailer of it to the common people; but he was a great capitalist, who dealt largely with the aristocratic orders. His eloquence was of the exhibitive kind; neither concentrated nor argumentative. It was the eloquence of the chair or the bench, rather than of the bar or the tribune. His written style is neat, elegant, and correct; but partakes of his constitutional languor, and is deficient in movement and force. His most celebrated forensic effort was his oration, in 1803, for Peltier, prosecuted for a libel on Napoleon. The accumulated stores of a richly cultivated mind were lavishly poured forth in depicting the progress of the French revolution and its giant child. It failed, however, in obtaining the acquittal of his client, and was considered injudicious as a defence, though a brilliant display of historical knowledge and philosophical acumen. His early speeches on parliament are said to have disappointed expectation; but on the occasion of the escape of Buonaparte from Elba he delivered one of the finest harangues ever heard in the house of commons. He was also distinguished by his speeches in the affair of Naples; the congress of Laybach; the oppression suffered by the Greeks; the introduction of the jury-law into Scotland; the government of Australia, and the amendment of the criminal code. To be a star in the senate, in the forum, in literature, and society, attests varied and extraordinary abilities. Notwithstanding, sir James does not appear to have belonged to the highest order of merit, either in decision of character, firmness of principle, or originality of mind. He was a lover of letters and philosophy; more prone to investigate than decide; of

no confirmed opinions, though eminently acute, learned, and disquisitive; not remarkable for active benevolence, but affable, kind, even-tempered, affectionate, and disinterested: in short, he would have made a very good French abbé before the revolution, and he described himself with tolerable correctness in a letter to his friend, Robert Hall, when he said, "My nature would have been better consulted if I had been placed in a quieter station, where speculation might have been my business, and visions of the fair and good my chief recreation."

**June 3. FUNERAL OF GENERAL LAMARQUE.**—The inveterate hostility of the Carlists and Republicans continued to endanger the government of Louis Philip. La Vendée and three other departments, containing a population of 2,000,000, were on the point of insurrection, and by a royal ordinance of the 4th were placed under martial law. The capital had been a scene of almost uninterrupted tumults since the beginning of the year, and plots were constantly being formed, suspected persons arrested, and ministers, by prosecutions sought to curb the violence of the opposition journals. At this juncture, the public funeral of general Lamarque offered a favourable opportunity for bringing into a focus all the elements of political discontent; and, as the throne of the king had been established by one daring outbreak of popular resistance, it might be overturned by another. The general himself had been one of the movement party,—a popular deputy and distinguished soldier of the republic and the empire. He was generally beloved; and an immense procession was formed to do honour to his remains, consisting of deputies and peers, national guards, the artillery of the city, and the exiled patriots of Poland, Germany, Spain, and Belgium. Spirited orations were delivered from a platform by M. Mauguin, Lafayette, marshal Clausel, and the Portuguese general Saldanha. The refusal of the duke of Fitzjames to pay respect to the deceased, or a quarrel between the *Amis du Peuple* and a regiment of dragoons, was the beginning of the disturbance. Cries were raised of "Aux armes," "A bas Louis Philippe," "Vive la république." Barricades were formed, the lamps broken, and attempts made to unpave the streets. The rioters, aided by some of the pupils of the Polytechnique school, displayed all the spirit of the days of July; but the population not being so unanimous, and the king and his minister-of-war acting with firmness, order was ultimately restored. This, however, was not accomplished without an immense sacrifice of life: in the terrible conflicts in the streets between the populace



and the military 1,000 persons were killed or wounded. In the course of the night of the 5th, seals were placed on the presses of the *Tribune*, *Quotidienne*, and the *Courier de l'Europe*, by order of the police. Next day, the king issued three ordinances declaring Paris in a state of siege, dissolving the company of the artillery of the national guard, and disbanding the pupils of the Polytechnique School. This was almost as great a stretch of power as Charles X. had been dethroned for attempting, and, if constitutional, demonstrated that the liberties of the French were still held by uncertain guarantees. But the arbitrariness of the king was corrected by the tribunals. On the 30th, the Court of Cassation decided that the ordinance declaring Paris in a state of siege was illegal; and annulled the sentences pronounced by courts-martial on the prisoners convicted of rioting and rebellion.

6. DEATH OF JEREMY BENTHAM.—This celebrated jurist and law reformer expired in Westminster, in the 85th year of his age, of an attack of bronchitis. He survived to hear of the success of the Reform Bill, an event he hailed with satisfaction, and during the last quarter of a century had witnessed the gradual spread in the New and Old World of those principles of legislation, that had formed the staple occupation of his life to inculcate. His earliest literary labours are dated so far back that they have not inaptly been considered antediluvian;—he was a young man with the Scotts, and at Lansdowne-house mingled in the society of Dunning, Pratt, Wedderburn, and other lawyers and orators of the first American war. But more disinterested than some of his contemporaries, he did not seek to profit by, but to reform public abuses; and his father's death leaving him in possession of competence, he was enabled to choose his own atmosphere, and, at once, abandoned a promising career he had commenced at the Chancery bar, to devote himself singly and in seclusion to pursuits he esteemed likely to be more useful to mankind and consonant to his own notions of moral rectitude. This was about fifty-six years since, when he published a Fragment on Government, in answer to what Mr. Blackstone had said on the subject in his Commentaries. He was the first to rebel against prescription—against the authority of the sages of the Year Books and Reports. No one before him thought of seriously impugning the principles of English jurisprudence. The business of the legal student was to master its jargon, its technical and artificial rules, and bow implicitly to its dicta. Mr. Bentham dissented from this passive

homage, and boldly questioned the fitness of a system established in a rude for a refined age. He was well qualified to enter on this unbeaten field. A lawyer himself, he was eligible to sit in judgment on the forms, mysteries, and usages of his profession. Moreover, he was a learned man, well versed in ancient languages, philosophy, and history; he was a travelled man, had visited and observed most European countries; he was a man of the world, too, though mostly living out of it—saw and communed with its chief luminaries—and no one kept a more watchful look-out, from the panopticon of his retreat, on every occurrence, political, forensic, or social, than the philosopher of Queen-square Place. He also naturally possessed rare intellectual endowments; was eminently acute, shrewd, and investigative; fearless and uncompromising in his researches after truth; and at an early period, few could more clearly and forcibly illustrate their ideas, or convey them in language more simple, terse, and eloquent. It is not, therefore, wonderful that an individual so highly gifted should have made an impression on his age, and succeeded in planting his own authority in place of the antiquity he perseveringly assailed. This is so far the case, that Bentham's name is frequently heard in legislative assemblies; it has even been respectfully adduced in the court of Chancery, and few now think of defending institutions because they exist, apart from their adaptation to living interests. The old idols have been so far destroyed that danger has arisen, lest, in the enthusiasm of victory, a new idolatry should be established on their ruins, not less autocratical and without appeal. There can, however, be no finality in intellect, however great, any more than in social institutions, however perfect. The world is still too young, has afforded too few lessons of political experience, for any one to affirm by what principles mankind can be best governed, and we must be content some time longer to go on experimenting and collecting new facts before legislation can be reduced to a science. It was a premature attempt to apply maxims for which the nations were unfit, that has mainly delayed the constitutional settlement of the Peninsula, and kept alive the sanguinary divisions of the South American republics. A kindred error appears to appertain to the Benthamite theories. They aspire to be universal without regard to time, place, or circumstance. They take in only one element of Man, his reason, leaving out his passions, which constitute the chief motive part of his existence, whether as an individual or member of society. They provide for the rational,

for which there hardly needs provision, leaving out the irrational, that constitute the vast majority, and for whose guidance restraint, law, and government are alone requisite. It is only by collating the abstractions of philosophy with history that practical government can be perfected. The utility of this is evinced by observing the working of the universal suffrage principle, which Mr. Bentham, in his later years, advocated as the necessary guarantee of good government. But in England we appear to have had already too much of universal suffrage government, and it is to this species of dictatorship over the sway of the intelligent that may be ascribed the chief public calamities. It was the subserviency of universal suffrage to the purposes of misrule, not by votes but by popular clamour, that precipitated the country into the first war with the American colonies; that delayed the emancipation of the Roman catholics; and that hurried on hostilities with France in 1793. Had the general voice—the shout of a numerical majority—prevailed, we should not have had a Protestant Reformation in the sixteenth century. It was its transitory predominance that paved the way for the anarchical butcheries of Robespierre, and the military usurpations of Cromwell and Buonaparte. Metaphysical ideas are useful for general guidance; they are the goal to aim at, but cannot be unexceptionably applied in actual life. They are to the legislator what the stars are to the mariner; they direct his path in the open sea, but history is the terrestrial chart that shows where the rocks and quicksands lie in the onward course of his navigation. The government of an age will always be a problem for the age, which cannot be solved by an established formula, however ingeniously constructed. It is an equation into which few constant quantities enter; not only their number but value varies from the fluctuations of social interests, the prevalence of ignorance or knowledge, virtue or vice, patriotism or faction, piety or superstition, riches or poverty. At different times and in different places, under these shifting impulses, nations are constantly being carried away, and a Solon or Lycurgus, in framing institutions for a people, can no more overlook them than an engineer can overlook the resistance of the air in directing the flight of a shell or cannon-ball. The mind of Mr. Bentham was more mechanical than philosophical; more quick than profound; more subtle than comprehensive; more fertile in devising expedients for obviating specific evils, than in framing organic changes in harmony with the general action of human passions, habits, and opinions. Thus the

ballot was his specific for sinister influence in elections; “single-seated justice,” or the judgment of one for judicial irresponsibility. He had the same faith in maxims that our ancestors had in proverbs. Though sagacious and well-informed, his judgment on the adaptation of means to ends was eccentric and unequal. What misapplied labours were his Parliamentary Reform Catechism and his Church of Englandism! How contradictory to leave his body for the interests of science and not his fortune; to bequeath the *redaction* of his posthumous works to a poet in lieu of a philosopher, and to project rules for giving precision to the language of legislators, while his own was all but incomprehensible! A habit of self-communion had the effect commonly observed in secluded men, of producing an over-weaning love of his own conceptions. Bewildered or weary through interminable musings in the pursuit of truth, he at length, it is said, came to relish a joke or an anecdote better than a reason. (*Speeches of Lord Brougham*, ii. 296.) The temperament of Mr. Bentham was peculiar; it was arid, and without soul, like his philosophy. Eloquence had no charm for him: what is more remarkable, the wonderful discoveries of physical science excited in him no admiration; nor did he value them beyond their power to minister to the common uses of life; for works of imagination he had no taste, and used to rejoice that the world would never again see an epic poem. His oldest friends died unregretted and without sympathy; and of one we are told (*Ibid.* 298) he always spoke disrespectfully, because he disappointed some extravagant hopes which he had formed that the bulk of a large fortune, acquired by industry, would be expended in furthering political improvements. These, however, are only spots in the disk of the most shining and useful light of modern times, and much may be said *per contra*. There was no guile or hypocrisy in Bentham’s nature. If he did not like a man or an opinion he did not conceal or disguise his aversion. His morals were unblemished; his honesty incorruptible; his word inviolate. There was nothing low or sordid in his aspirations. To serve mankind he threw away ambition, power, and riches. His writings are a well of important truths at which Romilly, Mackintosh, and Brougham filled their vessels, and gratefully acknowledged their obligations, especially the last, with a noble oblivion of his own transcendent claims. Posterity will appreciate and do justice to Jeremy Bentham, and they cannot build too high a monument for him who first rivetted attention on the great truth, that the sole end of morals, laws,



and institutions is the happiness of the human race.

**June 7. ROYAL ASSENT TO THE REFORM BILLS.**—This was given to the English bill on the 7th by commission, and an end put to the political suspense and excitement which had existed in an intense degree ever since the dissolution of the Wellington ministry at the close of 1830. The public joy was evinced by congratulatory addresses, partial illuminations, the projection of almshouses for the deserving indigent, dinners to the poor, exhibition of flags, the ringing of church bells, and other peaceful demonstrations. The disfranchisement of the decayed boroughs, and the enfranchisement in their stead of great and populous towns, effected a momentous change by substituting *real* in place of the *nominal* representation that previously existed. An entire new constituency of ten pound householders was created in cities and boroughs, which, though a fixed amount, was a variable standard, in different parts of the kingdom, so as to include in the burgess order a portion of every class of householders or occupants. The *county representation* was cast entirely anew. Six representatives were given to Yorkshire, two for each riding; Lincolnshire, Devon, Kent, Lancashire, and twenty-two other large counties were divided, and two knights given to each division; Berkshire and six other counties were to return three instead of two members each; Carmarthen, Denbigh, and Glamorgan two instead of one member. The county constituency was greatly extended. Heretofore, it had been restricted to forty-shilling freeholders. It was extended to copyholders of 10*l.* per annum; to lessees of 10*l.*, if for not less than sixty years, or of 50*l.*, if for not less than twenty years; and to *tenants-at-will*, if occupying at a yearly rent of not less than 50*l.* The last clause was carried against ministers; it was objected to as bringing in a class of electors too dependent on their landlords; but was supported by Mr. Hume and other strenuous reformers, who declared that the sole principle for which they had contended, and the basis of the Reform Bill itself was the enfranchisement, not disqualification of any class. The reform bills for Scotland and Ireland, and the bills for dividing the counties and for fixing the boundaries of cities and boroughs, followed close on the heels of the English Reform Act, and were completed before the close of the legislative session. The reform bill for Scotland received the royal assent July 17; that of Ireland August 7. An addition of eight members was made to the representation of Scotland, and five to Ireland, making, with the five added to Wales, a

deduction of eighteen from the representation of England. There was no popular representation in Scotland prior to the reform act. The burgess representatives were returned by the decayed corporations of the royal burghs. The county representatives by freeholders, whose title consisted in holding of the crown a mere right of superiority over lands, being themselves crown vassals, while the real proprietors of the land were vassals under them, paying feu-duties trifling in themselves, and of no value unconnected with the political privilege. It followed that the elective franchise was wholly severed from property. A man might have an estate of 2,000*l.* and no right to the superiority. If so, he had no vote. On the other hand, of all the voters in a county not one might possess a foot of land there. By the new act existing franchises are preserved; all persons lawfully on the roll of freeholders in any shire, continue eligible to vote; but the franchise is extended to the owner of any land, house, feu-duties or other heritable subject of the yearly value of 10*l.* In cities and towns the right of voting has been taken from the town councils and delegates, and extended to every person occupying a tenement of 10*l.* a year. The *Irish Reform Act* proceeded on the same liberal principle of enfranchisement, but preserving existing rights. To Limerick, Waterford, Belfast, Galway, and the university of Dublin, one additional member to each was given. Right of voting in boroughs extended to 10*l.* tenants; in counties to copyholders and leaseholders, same as England, with the exception of the alteration of fourteen for twenty years, and 20*l.* for 50*l.* in respect of lessees. An effort was made by Mr. O'Connell to obtain the restoration of the franchise to the forty-shilling freeholders, but this was successfully resisted on the ground that the '*forties*' in Ireland were not a description of freeholders qualified, by independence or intelligence, to exercise the franchise, either with benefit to themselves or others. The following exhibits the relative state of the representation in counties and boroughs, before and after the reform acts:—

	1830	1832
<i>English</i> County Members . . .	82	143
Cities and Boroughs	403	324
Universities . . .	4	4
<i>Welsh</i> County Members . . .	12	15
Cities and Boroughs	12	14
<i>Scotch</i> County Members . . .	30	30
Cities and Boroughs	15	23
<i>Irish</i> County Members . . .	64	64
Cities and Boroughs	35	39
University . . .	1	2

The loss of England on the popular side has been a transfer of 18 of her representatives to the other divisions of the empire, and the increase, relative to the cities and boroughs, in the number of county members. Her chief gain has been an increase in the number, and improvement in the intelligence and independence of the constituency. Scotland has benefitted the most, and Ireland, probably, in the smallest degree by the reform acts.

18. The Duke of Wellington returning from the Tower assaulted by the populace in Fenchurch-street, and nearly dismounted.

19. A stone thrown at his Majesty while on the grand stand at Ascot races, which hit him on the forehead. The offender was a discharged Greenwich pensioner, with only one leg, who acknowledged he committed the outrage in revenge that no notice had been taken of a petition which he had sent. He was tried and convicted of intending some bodily harm to the king, and sentenced to be beheaded, but respited.

26. Hon. G. Spencer, brother of viscount Althorp, ordained a roman catholic priest at the hands of Cardinal Larla in the church of St. Gregory at Rome.

28. Diet at Frankfort issued their manifesto of measures adopted to preserve order and tranquillity in Germany. It excited great agitation, being mainly directed against the freedom of the press, and alleged seditious assemblages, and bound each member of the German Confederacy to mutual assistance in case of political disturbances. About a fortnight after it was followed by a second decree, interdicting the circulation of the journals. The mandates of the diet were enforced in Hanover, by the duke of Cambridge, the representative of the king of England.

30. Chantrey's statue of the late James Watt placed on its pedestal, in George-square, Greenock. The face is fine and said to be a good likeness. Mr. Watt sat to Chantrey some time before his death, and it is from the bust then made that the statue in white marble, in Westminster Abbey, and another of the same material in the British Museum, have been modelled.

July 2. St. Jean d'Acre surrendered to Ibrahim, son of Mehemet Ali, pasha of Egypt. Ibrahim soon after defeated, in a great battle near Damascus, the army of the Sultan, and threatened to penetrate into Asia Minor. The Turks were eager to avail themselves of European tactics and discipline, but the Egyptians had anticipated them.

3. Lord Durham and suite sailed on an embassy extraordinary to Russia.

8. Don Pedro, ex-emperor of Brazil,

arrived at Oporto, having sailed from St. Michael's, in the Azores, on the 28th ult. His fleet consisted of 80 vessels, and his army of 7,500 men, of whom the best and bravest portion were 1000 English and French adventurers. The object of Don Pedro's enterprise was the establishment of his daughter Donna Maria on the throne of Portugal, usurped by her uncle Don Miguel. Oporto was promptly abandoned to the invader, and obstinate conflicts ensued in the neighbourhood between the two brothers, but the year closed without either side obtaining a decided advantage.

8. Mr. Jeremie, a zealous advocate of negro emancipation, having been nominated by government to act as attorney-general in the colony of Mauritius, arrived there agreeably to his appointment. No sooner had he landed, than a great part of the white population assembled to resist his admission to office; and a deputation represented to the governor, sir Charles Colville, the impossibility of maintaining the public peace, if Mr. Jeremie was not dismissed. Sir Charles was induced to comply with their demands, and Mr. Jeremie returned to England in the same vessel that carried him out.

12. The cholera commits great ravages in the Canadas, especially Montreal and Quebec.

20. Mr. Osbaldiston, for a wager, trotted the celebrated American horse Rattler thirty-four miles in two hours, eighteen minutes, and fifty-six seconds; the horse was injured by the exertion and died next day.

23. Parliament granted 15,000*l.* to erect a national picture gallery and record office.

27. The conduct of Major Wyndham in causing a soldier, named Alexander Somerville, to be flogged under the plea of disobedience of orders, though, it was alleged, in reality, for having expressed certain political opinions, having been subjected to a military court of inquiry, the major was acquitted of any such conduct, but censured for informality in having reproved him for those opinions after his punishment, in presence of the regiment. Somerville shortly after obtained his discharge, and a subscription of 300*l.* was raised for him.

Aug. 7. Duchess of Kent and the princess Victoria visit the lake and pass of Llanberis. The royal party embarked at the northern extremity of the lake, a few hundred yards from the ruins of the Hall of Llewellyn, where Edward I. embarked to attack the Welsh when they made their last stand. Here her royal highness entered the boat of T. R. Smith, Esq., at the stern of which floated the royal standard



of Britain, for the first time since the days of Edward.

11. Marriage of Leopold, king of Belgium, with a daughter of the king of the French, celebrated at Compeigne.

13. John Williams, aged 32, a waterman of Waterloo Bridge, performed the laborious task of rowing 99 miles within 12 hours. No man ever before achieved the undertaking. Two skilful rowers once performed the distance in thirteen hours.

29. A public discussion took place at Birmingham, between Mr. Thomas Attwood, the banker, and Mr. William Cobbett, on the best mode of relieving the distress of the country. Mr. Attwood's plan was, the issuing of an unlimited number of one-pound notes: Mr. Cobbett's, what he termed an equitable adjustment of the taxes, public and private debts, &c. The audience decided in favour of Mr. Attwood.

**GREEK TREATY.**—The long-pending negotiations between Russia, England, and France, having for their object the erection of Greece into an independent monarchy, concluded with a treaty, of which the following is the substance:—1. Prince Otho, of Bavaria, to bear the title of king of Greece, with right of succession in order of primogeniture. 2. Three Bavarian councillors to govern during the minority of the prince, appointed by the king of Bavaria; Otho to be of age in June, 1835. 3. The three powers guarantee a loan to Otho, not exceeding 60,000,000 of francs, to be raised by three equal instalments. 4. Indemnity out of the loan to be paid to the Porte for any territorial cessions to complete the Grecian frontier. 5. Bavaria to furnish 3,500 troops for the service of Greece, to be equipped and maintained by the Greek state. 6. Bavarian officers to organise a national army in Greece. About the same period, a protocol was signed at Constantinople, by which the Porte assented to the extension of the Greek frontier as required by the London Conference, from the Gulf of Arta to that of Vola, and recognised the independence of the Greek state. An indemnity of 40 millions of piastres to be paid to the Porte out of the proceeds of the loan guaranteed by the powers. It was not till December 6 that Otho left Munich for Nauplia, to take possession of the new sovereignty, that had long gone a begging among European princes.

Sept. 15. Duke Charles of Brunswick, who had been deposed in 1831, in consequence of his unpopular measures and personal incapacity for governing, banished from Paris, where he had been plotting to raise an expedition to unseat his brother Duke William, whom the Brunswickers had raised to the sovereignty in his stead.

18. Charles X. of France left Holyrood House for the Continent.

21. **DEATH OF SIR WALTER SCOTT.**—This highly popular author expired of paralysis, of which decided symptoms had appeared in the preceding winter, and was the same disease of which his father had died a few years older. A rapid tour in Italy had not retarded the progress of the fatal malady, and Sir Walter, on his return passed through London in July, in a state of hopeless debility, on his way to his much-loved abode of Abbotsford. Though his death had been expected for some months its announcement drew forth a general expression of regret and commiseration, heightened by its lingering approach, and the painful circumstances of pecuniary difficulty by which it had been preceded and hastened. He was buried at Dryburgh Abbey on the 26th, among the ruins of which his family possess a small piece of sepulchral ground, given them by the earl of Buchan. The public testified their respect to his memory by opening a munificent subscription for the erection of a suitable testimonial, and which ultimately amounted to 17,200*l.*, the whole, or a portion of which, it is intended to apply to the redemption of Abbotsford for the use of his descendants. The illustrious deceased was born at Edinburgh, August 15, 1771. His father, Mr. Walter Scott, was a respectable writer to the signet, a branch of the law profession in Scotland corresponding to that of attorney or solicitor in England. Sir Walter was the third child of a family of six sons and one daughter, all of whom he survived. His boyhood was sickly, and he mostly resided with his grandfather at Sandy Know, a farmhouse, occupying an elevated site near the old border fortlet called Smalholm Tower, overlooking the vale of the Tweed and other romantic scenery famous in Scottish story. It was here, surrounded by reminiscences of Flodden Field, the Northumbrian marches, moss-trooper forays, the ruins of Melrose, Dryburgh, and the storied streams of Teviot, Ettrick, Yarrow, and Gala-water, aided by nursery ballads and traditional legends, that Scott imbibed that enthusiastic passion for minstrelsy, clanship, and Rob Roy life, which formed the dominant feature of his mind. At the age of sixteen, his health experienced a sudden and decisive improvement. It became robust, and he grew up into a strong muscular man, upwards of six feet high. He never, however, recovered the use of his right limb, which was shrunk, and required to be supported by a staff that he carried close to his toes, the heel turning a little inwards. Had it not been for his lameness, it is likely he would

have been a soldier, instead of a poet and novelist, and for which he was naturally suited by his border gifts and martial sympathies. He was not a forward scholar; nor as an advocate at the Scottish bar did he acquire or anxiously seek eminence; nor was he conspicuous at the debating societies, where the candidates for forensic honours usually train themselves, and where moral and metaphysical subtleties generally form the staple topics of discussion. He was, however, a frequenter of the theatres, an inveterate story-teller, studious, and a great reader, especially of books of fiction, biography, general and local history, voyages, and travels. It was a peculiarity in sir Walter, who was mirthful and convivial, that he had no ear for music; and though he was wont on festive occasions, when pressed, to contribute his vocal quota, he was incapable of producing two notes consecutively in time or tune. In 1797 he married Miss Carpenter, the daughter of a French royalist, of considerable personal attractions, with whom he had become acquainted at the watering place of Gilsland in Cumberland, and who possessed an annuity of 400*l.* per annum. In the preceding year, he had published a translation of two ballads, 'William and Helen' and the 'Wild Huntsman,' written by the German poet Burger, which had attracted much attention, and of which several versions by different persons had already been printed. This was his first acknowledged literary effort, and its success was not flattering. Without allowing himself to be discouraged by this adventure, he continued the culture of German literature, and, in 1799, published a translation of Goethe's tragedy of 'Goetz of Berlichingen.' A year or two previously, he had been appointed quartermaster to the Edinburgh light horse, for whom he composed a spirited war-song. After his marriage, he spent several summers in a delightful cottage at Lasswade, on the banks of the Esk, whence he was accustomed to make 'raids' into Liddesdale for the purpose of collecting the ballad poetry of that romantic and primitive district. This collection, joined to various contributions from reciters in other parts of the country, formed the basis of 'The Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border,' which established his reputation as a poetical antiquary, and writer of considerable power and promise in prose and verse. In 1803 he left the bar, entirely to devote himself to the more congenial pursuit of letters. "There had been no great love between them at the beginning, and it had not increased by further acquaintance." He was in circumstances to follow his inclination without imprudence. By his appointment

of sheriff, which he had obtained, and his wife's annuity, he had a certain income of 700*l.* independent of the property left him by his father. He further guaranteed his pecuniary independence by obtaining three years after the reversion of the lucrative office of principal clerk in the court of session. The publication of the 'Lay of the Last Minstrel,' in 1805, was the beginning of his poetical renown. It was his first original work, produced him 769*l.* and a world of fame. 'Marmion,' his second poem of magnitude, and, in the opinion of the author and some others, his best metrical production, followed, and promptly obtained from the publisher 1,000*l.* It provoked, however, a sharp dissection from Mr. Jeffrey (*Edinburgh Review*, April, 1808), who could not implicitly acquiesce in the new taste awakened by the genius of the bard, and rabidly patronised by the caprice of fashion. The prince of critics, who exercised a fearful sway over the irritable tribe, contended that the building of an abbey or a castle would be as germane to the age as the revival of the obsolete rhyming and grotesque usages of our forefathers. His strictures were doubtless felt, though the minstrel was too wary a foe-man openly to avow displeasure at his friend's criticism, further than by some retaliatory proceedings, one of which was the starting of the *Quarterly Review* on the alleged ground of the noxious politics of the northern periodical, which Scott represented to Ellis, Gifford, and other Tories, as corrupting the public mind by its large sale of 9,000 copies and the dexterous talent with which it was conducted. Having been a colleague in the *Edinburgh Review*, Scott was enabled to give some shrewd advice, which he did, to Mr. Gifford, about the most skilful mode of conducting the rival journal. His own literary occupations were various and voluminous; besides poems and reviews, and articles in a *New Annual Register*—another, but abortive bomb, directed against the Whigs—he edited new editions of Dryden and Swift, Sadler's State Papers, and Somers's Tracts. That a writer of original powers should occupy himself in such toil-some and inglorious tasks puzzled his literary contemporaries, but the mystery has been since unravelled. It appears that about the time when sir Walter withdrew from professional life, he, with the view of increasing an income already considerable, entered into a secret partnership with an old schoolfellow and friend, James Ballantyne, in the printing business, to which was afterwards added the bookselling business carried on by John Ballantyne. To this firm he advanced money and stipulated for one-third



share of the profits of the printing business, which he expected greatly to increase by his influence among booksellers and law-agents. All the works he afterwards wrote, edited, or compiled, he stipulated with the purchasers of the copyrights that they should be printed at the Ballantyne press. It is a rule both in Scotland and England, that no barrister shall be a trader, and doubtless considerations of professional etiquette entered into the motives that induced sir Walter carefully to conceal his mercantile connexion. This secrecy was fraught with evil, and appears to have been mainly instrumental, by the over-speculation it induced, in involving all parties in the pecuniary embarrassments that marked the sequel. For obvious reasons an author is not the safest judge of commercial results; and had sir Walter's publishers been aware that he acted, not only under the ordinary influence of a desire to appear before the public, and the seductions of a congenial occupation, but that he had also a direct interest in keeping the presses of his partners employed, they would have considered more deliberately than they often did the various literary schemes into which his lively imagination and sanguine temperament tempted them to embark. As it was, they judged in the dark, concluded upon testimony that ought to have been suspiciously received, unconscious that the Ballantynes were a kind of *battue* to sir Walter, who shared largely in all the venison he could drive into it. It forms quite a novelty in literary biography. Publishers are supposed to have the advantage of authors, but sir Walter by his system of double depletion, first, in his contract for literary aid and superintendence with Constable and Co., and then, by his share in the sub-drain at the printing-office, was a match for them. Nearly contemporary with these mercantile connexions, and probably in part the result of them, was the manifestation of another passion, namely, that of becoming a great landowner. The eagerness of the poet for territorial domains and a baronial residence, that might vie with the heritage of the hereditary lords of the soil seems to have kept alive, if it did not originate, his speculative avidity. The building, planting, embellishing, and laying out of Abbotsford in Gothic style; and the storing it with matchlocks, halberds, battle-axes, and other remains of ancient armour, not only absorbed the present gains of the author—great as they were—but drove him on all the common mercantile expedients by which future resources are anticipated. It was, however, at a later period of life that this gulf of ruin opened under him. For many years he enjoyed an unequalled popularity, and

which no other writer, probably, during his lifetime, ever enjoyed to the same delirious extent. He was not only the wonder of his own, but of every civilized, community. The 'great Unknown,' the 'mighty magician,' the 'wizard of the North,' are a few of the bombastic titles conferred upon him, and which his extraordinary merit and success elicited from contemporary reviewers. The publication of the 'Lady of the Lake' in 1810, carried to its meridian height his poetical celebrity. It was followed by others which met with a decidedly unfavourable reception, partly from the public having become satiated with his peculiar style, which had lost the charm of novelty; partly, also, from some inferiority, in interest or execution of the poems; but principally to the circumstance of a rival having entered the lists of such prowess as to eclipse even the minstrel knight of Flodden Field and Bannockburn. This was lord Byron, who published the first two cantos of *Childe Harold* in 1812, and followed up these by a rapid succession of brilliant productions, which for a time cast every thing else in the shape of verse into the shade. Leaving the field of poetry, Scott entered a new arena, in which he won fresh laurels, and a more dazzling renown than in metrical romance. 'Waverley' made its appearance in 1814. It was published without the name of the author, and in consequence, at first, was little noticed, but in a few months it started into a surprising popularity. 'Guy Mannering,' and the 'Antiquary' followed in the next two years, the fame of the author and the appetite of the public increasing with every fresh venture. The Scotch novels proved a richer vein than poetry, and sir Walter having discovered the secret where his strength lay, exerted it with his accustomed judgment and industry. Year after year he poured forth the rich creations of his fertile brain till the prose fictions he had 'twined off' (to use his own phrase) amounted to seventy-four volumes, sold at half-a-guinea per volume. Great as were the merits of these productions, they were not left to depend for success on desert alone; but all the adventitious arts of trade and authorship were dexterously combined into action, to aid and maintain their popularity. The annual profits of his novels, Mr. Lockhart says, (*Memoirs*, iv. 145) for several years amounted to 10,000*l.*; that is, in Messrs. Constable and Co.'s paper money. The composition of them did not occupy the whole of his time; in addition to reviews, he furnished the articles 'Chivalry,' 'Romance,' and the 'Drama,' to the sixth edition of the *Edinburgh Encyclopædia*; he was also the author of several fresh poems, histories, letters, and communica-

tions to newspapers, besides either editing or assisting in the compilation of numerous works of antiquities, topography, and provincial history. Amidst his various labours he found leisure, not only for his official avocations, but for social enjoyment and rural recreation. When George IV. visited Scotland, he acted as master of the ceremonies; he had been previously honoured with several interviews by that prince, who made him a baronet, and a still higher titular distinction, even that of 'baron,' was aspired to by the poet. At this period, and for some years after, sir Walter considered himself and was considered by the world as a person in very prosperous and enviable circumstances. By an extraordinary union of genius and industry, regulated by a practised judgment, which enabled him to adapt his works to the popular taste, he seemed to have 'fixed a spoke in the wheel of Fortune.' His aristocratic ambition, too, to keep himself as he expresses it 'abreast of society,' had been eminently successful. During the greater part of the summer and autumn he kept house at Abbotsford, like a wealthy country gentleman, receiving with a cordial, yet courtly, hospitality the many distinguished visitors, both from England and the Continent, who found means to obtain an introduction to his 'enchanted castle.' All this apparent security, happiness, and ostentation, however, was destined speedily to crumble into dust. The disasters of sir Walter, like those of Napoleon, were more sudden and overwhelming than his successes. In January, 1826, the great book-selling house of Constable and Co. became bankrupt, involving in its failure, to an extent utterly ruinous, the author of *Waverley*. By a system of mutual accommodation, by bills and guarantees, which had been long carried on between sir Walter and the insolvent firm, who were his chief publishers, the former had become responsible for debts to the amount of 120,000*l*. The causes of this pecuniary entanglement, so far as sir Walter was concerned, have been already alluded to. The realization of his romantic associations in the Abbotsford mansion, had absorbed from fifty to one hundred thousand pounds. It was only his works of imagination that had been remarkably profitable; and these lighter barks, or to use a more novel and expressive metaphor, these little steam-tugs, powerful as they were, proved unequal to the task of towing along the heavier literary merchandise, with which their talented author had freighted them. The calamity which, to the surprise and grief of the public, thus fell upon sir Walter, he met with a manliness, fortitude, and integrity of principle unparalleled. On

meeting the creditors he refused to accept any compromise, and he declared his determination, if life was spared to him, to pay off the last shilling; the only indulgence he asked was time. The divulgement of the *Waverley* secret became, by the exposure of Constable's concerns, unavoidable; it had, in fact, ceased to be, if it ever were a secret, and was only part of the mystification employed in the Scotch novel manufactory. A series of literary enterprises was vigorously entered upon, the most profitable of which were the "*Life of Napoleon*" and a new and complete edition of the *Waverley* novels. The last were illustrated by notes explanatory of the circumstances under which they had been composed; and was equivalent to selling the patent, after the author had long traded with the secret of his inventions. Before the close of 1829, eight volumes had been published and the monthly sale had reached as high as 35,000 copies.—(*Lockhart's Memoirs*, vii. 196.) The profits of these and other works, which the public naturally inclined to patronise, from the laudable motives under which they had been undertaken, were so considerable, that, towards the end of 1830, 54,000*l*. of liabilities had been paid off; all of which except about 6,000*l*. had been produced by the sale of his publications. It was in this year, as already mentioned, that sir Walter was attacked by the malady which proved fatal. He was able, however, to attend a county meeting at Jedburgh in March, 1831, to oppose the reform bill. Here he was hissed, which repulse touched him acutely, and coupled with the deep mortification he felt at the ascendancy of the whigs, more than any thing, probably accelerated his death. Two daughters, since dead, and two sons, one in the foreign office and the other a major of hussars, survived him. Lady Scott died May 15, 1826. The great contemporary interest excited by the writings of sir Walter has imperceptibly protracted this biographical notice beyond the limits due to its relative importance, or than is perhaps necessary to elucidate the structure of a mind not remarkable for variety or complication. The qualities in which Scott excelled other men were his fertile imagination, retentive memory, and tasteful judgment. These supplied the materials and the artist skill successfully to use them. His genius was more simulative than reflective; exhibited the power of the ventriloquist, in giving voices to his impersonations, while that of the enchanter remained concealed; and was unlike that of lord Byron, who infused into his characters his own feelings and convictions. His Quixotic admiration of the *Waverley* age was a poetical fascination, that had



been fostered by early impressions and fictitious reading; but even his master passion did not overpower his natural sagacity, so as to render him insensible to the benefits of civilization, or careless of the means of procuring them. His writings are not of a high order of desert; they have no tendency to correct, but cherish human error—to put back, in lieu of advancing the age; and their chief aim appears to have been to profit the author by ministering to the amusement of women and those who read for pastime. In this he was eminently successful, without offensive or noxious accompaniment. He never assails a prejudice, or hurts any feeling, moral or religious. He is generally amusing, sometimes instructs, never corrupts. This is the great excellence of his tales and romantic histories, whose graphic and picturesque descriptions of local scenery—fascinating visions of beauty and loveliness—tumultuous and animated presentment of battles, conflicts, and altercations—coupled with a humour, generous, racy, and spontaneous—delineations of character, droll, varied, lively, and original—have the effect of a play or a pantomime, in agreeably transporting from the realities of life to the regions of fancy, without leaving behind any leporous distilment that may taint the heart or derange the judgment. There are some votaries who prefer his metrical to his prose romances. In the former, he is like his own panoplied knights in armour, stately, imposing, and magnificent, but stiff, vacant, and artificial; while in the latter, whether in hall, court, glen, or bower—on heath, mountain, lake, or stream—he was natural, free, graceful, and energetic, like his own Rob Roy. Apart from his fictions, he was not a very successful author. He is too careless, incorrect, prejudiced, and superficial for authentic history, biography, or general literature. His chivalry was limited to his writings: in actual life no man appears to have been more keen, provident, shrewd, and self-seeking. His eagerness to amass was so excessive as to over-shoot its mark; for it was his avidity for gain at all points that ruined him. Had he been more moderate—and surely a certain income of 2,000*l.* a-year was inducement enough to be so—how much more amiable would have been his biography! What a contrast between the author of *Waverley* and his gifted countryman, Burns—between the scheming aspirant to aristocratic rank and the noble independence of the peasant bard! Leaving out the fatal propensity to accumulate for the “romantic idealization of Scottish aristocracy”—for the glory of founding a new race of “Scotts of Abbotsford,” which are the excuses adduced for him—the private cha-

racter of sir Walter was gracious and estimable. In domestic life he was cheerful, hearty, and virtuous; manly and simple in his tastes; free, easy, jocular, and unassuming in his intercourse with all classes and degrees.

29. Report of the sanatory commission of Paris published, stating the number of deaths in that city arising from cholera, between March 26 and August 30, to have been 18,000.

Oct. 1. A subscription raised in the city of London for the erection of almshouses, in lieu of an illumination to celebrate the passing of the Reform Bill.

10. The new formation of the French ministry announced in the *Moniteur*:—Marshal Soult, president of the council and minister-of-war, *vice* M. Perier; duke de Broglie, minister of foreign affairs, *vice* Sebastiani; M. Humann, minister of finance, *vice* M. Montalivet; M. Thiers, minister of the interior, *vice* Baron Louis; M. Guizot, minister of public instruction, *vice* M. Girod de l’Ain; M. Barthe, keeper of the seals and administrator of ecclesiastical affairs. Admiral de Rigny to remain minister of the marine, and M. d’Argout of commerce and public works. Baron Louis and M. Girod de l’Ain were created peers; and a royal ordinance followed, containing a list of the names of sixty-one other individuals created peers.

25. Queen of Spain appointed regent during the indisposition of the king; her majesty granted a general amnesty, and declared in favour of liberal measures.

30. A French squadron arrives at Spithead, to co-operate with the English in compelling the Dutch to evacuate Antwerp, in conformity with the settlement of the great powers.

Nov. 1. Charles Pinney, mayor of Bristol during the riots, acquitted of the charge of misdemeanour in neglecting his duty, after a trial of six days before the court of king’s bench. It appeared the accused had exerted himself, but had not been zealously supported by the inhabitants, from the unpopularity of the political opinions of their recorder, and, next, from dislike of their close corporation.

4. Died at his house, Russell-square, in his 71st year, CHARLES ABBOTT, baron Ten-terden, lord chief justice of the court of king’s bench. His health had been declining for some years; and on the commencement of the trial of the Bristol mayor, on the 27th ult., he was taken so ill that he was unable again to appear in court. The ruling passion seems to have been strongly evinced in the last moments of this eminent public functionary. His family were standing round his bed, watching his closing struggles, when he was observed

feebly to move his hand along the pillow, as if in the act of writing, and immediately afterwards he was heard to exclaim, almost in his usual tone, "Gentlemen of the Jury, you may retire:" he then closed his eyes and expired. He was born at Canterbury of humble parentage, but received a classic education. At Oxford, where he obtained both a fellowship and tutorship, he was a persevering and successful student, and distinguished by his quiet demeanour. He owed his easy success in life to the patronage of powerful individuals. Mr. Justice Buller, observing his peculiar talents, recommended to him the legal profession; and his excellent treatise on the Shipping Laws obtained for him the favour of lords Eldon and Ellenborough,—under the concurring recommendation of whom he was advanced to the bench; and in 1818 he succeeded the latter as chief justice of England. Lord Tenterden was not an orator, but remarkable for a well-governed temper, learning, judgment, and excellent sense. He was not an advocate calculated to impress a jury, but he was a safe counsellor; and his business at the bar was so considerable that it yielded an average income of 10,000*l*. His court he contrived to keep in admirable order; and the most arrogant spirits were subdued by his grave and well-timed rebuke. As a legislator he had few claims. He was a conservative in church and state; and the last speech he delivered in the house of lords, where he seldom spoke, was against the Reform Bill.

6. A deputation, consisting of forty gentlemen, headed by sir John Key, the lord mayor, waited upon earl Grey, lord Althorp, and lord John Russell, to present their lordships with gold cups, the produce of a penny subscription, to which 300,000 persons had contributed. The cups weigh eighty-five ounces, and contain five pints each. A similar cup was presented to lord chancellor Brougham.

An embargo laid on Dutch vessels by the English and French governments in their respective ports. The king of Holland refused to follow the example; alleging that it "would be unjust to entail on private individuals the consequences of state quarrels."

7. DUCHESS OF BERRI.—This adventurous Bourbon, who had been for some time previously using her endeavours to excite insurrection in the western provinces in favour of her son, was arrested on the 7th at Nantes. She was discovered, with three of her companions, hid in an oven or small closet behind the chimney, the heat of which greatly incommoded them, especially the duchess, who was pressed against the back of it, and compelled them to cry out to surrender. The princess said

her pursuers "had made war upon her *à la St. Laurent*." She was confined in the castle of Blaye,—where, much to the astonishment of Europe, and the great confusion of the royalists, she gave birth to a daughter, May 10. It was not known she had forsaken her widowhood; but after her accouchement she signed a declaration that she had been privately married in Italy to Count Hector Luchesi Palli, gentleman of the chamber to her brother the king of Naples, and then residing as envoy from that court at the Hague. This lapse having deprived the princess of her influence over the Bourbonites, and of the power of exciting disturbance, the French government gladly availed themselves of the opportunity to set her at liberty. Immediately she recovered, she was put on board a French frigate, along with her infant and attendants, and conveyed to Sicily.

19. The king of the French, whilst on horseback proceeding to the chambers to open the session, was fired at by an unknown person, who immediately escaped by mixing in the crowd. His majesty was unhurt, and proceeded to deliver the royal speech, which chiefly related to the siege of Antwerp, and some important laws to be introduced during the session. M. Dupin, the ministerial candidate, was chosen president by a large majority.

24. The legislative assembly of South Carolina resolved to resist the tariff imposed by the general congress of the United States. They empowered the governor of the state, general Hamilton, to declare its independence of and separation from the federal union, on the first appearance of any military force for its coercion; but they also stated what modifications in the duties on foreign manufactures would satisfy them. President Jackson replied in firm but argumentative and conciliatory addresses. Early in the ensuing year this threatening commotion in the Union was compromised by alterations in the tariff, which provided that duties on imports should be gradually reduced to 20 per cent. *ad valorem*.

Dec. 3. Parliament dissolved by proclamation.

4. President Jackson delivered his message to congress. He congratulated them on the near prospect of the liquidation of the residue of the public debt, and deprecated the policy of the tariff which prevented a mutual commerce between their own and other countries.

5. An Irish youth, aged nineteen, killed at Farsley, near Leeds. He had given offence to the trade unionists. The perpetrators of the foul act were not detected.

15. During the second day's polling at Sheffield an unfortunate disturbance took



place, which occasioned the deaths of five persons.

21. **Battle of Konieh** (the ancient *Iconium*) between Ibrahim Pasha and Redschid Pasha, the grand vizier. The victories of Ibrahim in the preceding year had opened to him the way across the Taurus, and, descending into the plains of Caramania, he took up a strong position behind the town of Konieh, where the enemy could reach him only through dangerous defiles. His army was inferior in number to that of the Turks, but hardened to war, accustomed to victory, and led by skilful officers. The vizier, apprehensive that Ibrahim might receive reinforcements, attacked the centre of the Egyptian position; which Ibrahim foreseeing, he fell suddenly on the Turkish flanks, broke them, surrounded the vizier and made him prisoner. This signal defeat caused the utmost alarm at Constantinople, there being now no obstacle between Ibrahim and the shores of the Bosphorus.

24. **SURRENDER OF ANTWERP.**—The French army, amounting to near 60,000 men, commanded by marshal Gerard, entered Belgium on the 13th ult., and on the 30th the marshal summoned general Chassé, in the name of the two coercing powers, England and France, to surrender the citadel. General Chassé refused, and declared his intention to hold out to the last extremity. After some negotiation, it was settled that the city of Antwerp should be considered neutral by both sides. On the 4th inst., the French having dug their entrenchments and prepared their artillery, opened a fire in volleys with about 100 pieces. The Dutch returned it with spirit, and many of the French were killed and wounded. The operations were carried on with vigour on both sides till the 23rd, when the besiegers having laid the interior of the fort in ruins and effected a breach with the intention of carrying it by storm, general Chassé surrendered on the following day. By the terms of the capitulation the garrison were held prisoners of war, till the surrender of Lillo and Liefkenshoek, two other Belgic fortresses on the Scheldt, in the possession of the Dutch. The king of Holland, however, refused to allow of the surrender of these forts; upon which the garrison was marched into France and the French army evacuated Belgium.

31. Ferdinand of Spain rescinds and protests against a decree extorted from him while he lay dangerously ill, by which the Salic law had been renewed, and his brother, Don Carlos, declared his successor, to the exclusion of his own daughter.

**MARRIAGES.**—A German periodical, the *Hesperus*, contains the results of some

curious inquiries on this subject. It appears that to 1,000 marriages there were born in the Two Sicilies 5,546 children; in France, 4,118; in England, 3,565; in Zealand, 3,439. So that the Two Sicilies and Zealand being the extremes, marriages are less prolific as the country lies nearer the north. The writer also shows what might have been foreseen, that there has been a growing excess of males over females since the peace.

**CRIME IN FRANCE.**—Out of every 100 persons accused, 61 are regularly condemned. Out of the whole population, one in every 4,460 inhabitants is accused. In every 100 crimes, 25 are against the person, 75 against property. Experience shows, that the number of murders is annually nearly the same; and, that the instruments or means employed are always in the same proportion. The inclination to commit crime is at its greatest in *man* about the age of twenty-five; in *woman*, five years later. The proportion of men and women accused is four to one. In summer more crimes are committed against the person, fewer against property; the reverse is the case in winter.

**STEAM CARRIAGES.**—A parliamentary committee appointed to inquire into steam carriages, concluded their report with the following summary:—1. That carriages can be propelled by steam on *common roads* at an average rate of ten miles per hour. 2. That at this rate they have conveyed upwards of fourteen passengers. 3. That their weight, including engine, fuel, water, and attendants, may be under three tons. 4. That they can ascend and descend hills of considerable inclination with facility and ease. 5. That they are perfectly safe for passengers. 6. That they need not be nuisances to the public. 7. That they will become a speedier and cheaper mode of conveyance than carriages drawn by horses. 8. That, as they admit of greater breadth of tire than other carriages, and as the roads are not acted on so injuriously as by the feet of horses in common draught, such carriages will cause less wear of roads than coaches drawn by horses.

**SOCIAL ECONOMY.**—The inquiries of the commissioners appointed to inquire into the operation of the Poor Laws have disclosed some extraordinary features in the condition of different classes of society. It appears that, in many gaols, criminals have a greater allowance of food than that given to paupers, and that paupers in their turn are better fed than independent labourers. The following results have been arrived at by Mr. Chadwick, which, if correctly deduced, show that the scale of allowance is proportioned to the demerit rather than the desert of the receivers. Of *solid food*

weekly, the independent agricultural labourer receives 122 ounces; the soldier, 168; the able-bodied pauper, 151; the suspected thief, 181; the convicted thief, 239; the transported thief, 330 ounces.

**ANNUAL OBITUARY.**—At Dublin, Alex. Nimmo, 49, eminent civil engineer; upwards of 30 piers or harbours on the Irish coast were built under his superintendence. At Paris, Admiral sir Alexander Cochrane, 73, experienced naval officer, and ninth son of Thomas, earl of Dundonald. At Lisson Grove, by his own hand, James Fletcher, 21, author of a "History of Poland," a young man of promising talent, who had become dependent on the uncertain gains of literature. Joseph Munden, 73, popular comic actor. Joseph Brasbridge, 90, a retired silversmith of Fleet-street and author of an autobiography. At Weimar, the celebrated Goëthe, 82, author of Werther, and patriarch of the mystical writers of Germany. At his cottage in the vale of Evesham, Muzio Clementi, 81, celebrated pianist, and according to Dr. Crotch, father of pianoforte music. At Fontainebleau, the Rev. Charles Colton, author of *Lacon*, &c., and an eccentric character, who committed suicide rather than submit to a surgical operation rendered unavoidable by disease. Sir Richard Birnie, 72, chief magistrate of the police office, Bow-street. Sir Richard was a native of Scotland, and at one period of life a journeyman saddler in London. After an advantageous marriage, the successful pursuit of business, and filling almost every parochial office, he was, at the instance of the duke of Northumberland, placed in the commission of the peace. He obtained the flattering notice of the prince of Wales, while in his original employment; and distinguished himself as a magistrate at the Queen's funeral, and in the apprehension of the Cato-street conspirators. At Paris, M. Champollion, 42, celebrated Egyptian scholar. At Dawlish, sir William Grant, 77, late master of the rolls. John Taylor, 76, formerly editor of the *Sun* newspaper and author of "Monsieur Tonsion." Charles Butler, 83, eminent juriconsult, and author of "*Horæ Biblicæ*," &c. At Montpelier, near Bristol, Miss Anna Maria Porter, the accomplished and popular novelist. John Heley Hutchinson, earl of Donoughmore, 75, a distinguished military officer, who, on the death of general Abercrombie, succeeded that gallant officer in the command of the British army in Egypt. Sir John Carr, 60, late popular tourist and author of books of Travels. At the palace of Schoenbrunn, near Vienna, of consumption, the duke of Reichstadt, 21, the only legitimate child of Napoleon Buonaparte. Near Chelmsford, sir John

Tyrell, 70, lineally descended from sir Walter Tyrell, who accidentally slew king William Rufus, and whose descendants for fifteen generations uniformly received the grade of knighthood. Viscount Dillon, 54, author of "*The Tactics of Ælian*," &c. George Bridgman, 80, court newsman in the latter part of George III.'s reign. Rev. Adam Clarke, 72, Wesleyan preacher and biblical scholar. At Chelsea College, sir Everard Home, 76, surgeon to that hospital, and distinguished medical writer. Priscilla Wakefield, 82, author of many popular tracts for young persons. At Bath, James Stephens, 73, late master in chancery, and fellow labourer with Clarkson and Wilberforce, whose sister he married, in the struggle for the abolition of the African slave trade. Mr. Stephens was an able writer and speaker, and author of the celebrated *Orders in Council*, framed to meet the anti-commercial Milan and Berlin decrees of Napoleon. Sir John Leslie, 56, professor of natural philosophy in the university of Edinburgh, and distinguished writer on mathematical and physical science. At Vienna, Andrew Count O'Reilly, 92, general of cavalry in the Austrian army, and considered the last of the class of Irish officers, the contemporaries or *élèves* of the Dauns, Lacys, Loudons, and Browns, so renowned in the wars of Frederick II. and Maria Teresa. At Boston, in America, Dr. Spurzheim, 56, the disciple of Dr. Gall, and zealous teacher of phrenology. At Pimlico, Thomas Hardy, 82, formerly secretary to the London Corresponding Society and the subject of an unsuccessful government prosecution (p. 590.) It being considered by the friends of Mr. Hardy that the justice of his political views had been confirmed by the Reform Act, his interment in Bunhill Fields was made the occasion of a funeral oration, after the fashion of the French. At Paris, Jean Baptiste Say, a writer who had zealously laboured to spread the economical principles of Dr. Adam Smith among his countrymen.

**A.D. 1833. ELECTION AND COMPOSITION OF THE FIRST REFORM PARLIAMENT.**—The elections in the last month of the past year were all over in less than three weeks after the dissolution of parliament. The quietness and dispatch with which this national business was transacted contrasted favourably with the fifteen days' riot, licentiousness and immorality, which prevailed under the former system. Even the opponents of the Reform Acts were constrained to admit the superiority of their practical working in elections. By excluding non-resident voters, by limiting the duration of the poll to two days, and increasing the number of polling places, the expenses



to candidates were diminished, and increased facilities afforded to electors. As might be expected, the elections ran strongly in favour of the ministers, to whom the people were under such especial obligations. The numerical strength of the different parties in the new house of commons was supposed to be—Ministerial members, 400; Tories or Conservatives, 150; Radicals, Ultra Liberals, Independent, Irish Repealers, &c., about 100. Considering the latter division reformers, the subjoined statement exhibits, under the heads of Reformers and Conservatives, the number of each class returned by the counties, cities, boroughs, and universities of the United Kingdom:—

	Ref.	Cons.
<i>England</i> , County Members . . .	102	42
Cities and Boroughs . . .	264	59
Universities . . .		4
<i>Wales</i> , County Members . . .	8	7
Cities and Boroughs . . .	11	3
<i>Scotland</i> , County Members . . .	22	8
Cities and Boroughs . . .	22	1
<i>Ireland</i> , County Members . . .	48	16
Cities and Boroughs . . .	32	7
Dublin University . . .		2
<b>Total Members</b> . . .	<b>509</b>	<b>149</b>

Of the whole 658 members, about 280 had not sat in the preceding parliament, and few of the 280 in any parliament. Of the 380 members who had been in the last parliament and were also returned for this, most of them sat for new places. Of the 80 Irish reformers, 38 were pledged *repealers*. The universities appear to have been most deeply *conservative*, the Scotch burghs the least so. The English counties were more conservative than the boroughs, but not so conservative as the Welsh counties, which exceeded the conservatism of the Irish counties. The subjoined statement exhibits the number of counties and boroughs, the number of registered electors, and the number of members returned in the general election of 1832:—

	Electors.	Mems.
40 <i>English</i> Counties . . .	344,564	144
185 <i>Do.</i> Boroughs . . .	274,649	327
12 <i>Welsh</i> Counties . . .	25,815	15
14 <i>Do.</i> Boroughs . . .	11,309	14
30 <i>Scotch</i> Counties . . .	33,114	30
76 <i>Do.</i> Boroughs . . .	31,332	76
32 <i>Irish</i> Counties . . .	60,607	64
34 <i>Do.</i> Boroughs . . .	31,545	41

Of the 114 counties and divisions in the United Kingdom, 60 were contested; in 54, no contest. Of the 254 cities, boroughs, and towns, 190 were contested; in 64 no contest. In the first session of the new parliament there were 64 members hold-

ing commissions in the army, 19 in the navy, and 45 in the militia and yeomanry; 68 holding civil or judicial offices, or having pensions, grants, or emoluments, to the amount of 101,288*l.*—(*Parl. Pap. No. 671, Sess. 1833.*) The number of members connected by blood or marriage with peers was 186. Those possessing church patronage were 79; merchants and traders, 33; manufacturers, 16; bankers, 33; barristers, 64; law students, 2; solicitors, 5; literary and political writers, 6; and persons of no profession, 416.

*Jan. 1.* A destructive conflagration at Liverpool, in which from fifteen to twenty warehouses were destroyed, with property to the value of 300,000*l.*

## 2. POPULAR EDUCATION IN FRANCE.—

M. Guizot introduced into the French chamber of deputies, in a speech of great ability, his scheme of popular instruction, which passed into a law in the course of the session. It establishes three descriptions of schools; Elementary schools, of which every commune or parish is bound to maintain one, except when two or more small communes join to maintain the same school; Middle schools, for the higher branches of education, of which there is to be one in every departmental town, and in every parish having more than 6000 inhabitants; and Normal schools, for the training of teachers, of which there is also to be one for each department. The elementary education is to consist of reading, writing, French grammar, and arithmetic, together with moral and religious instruction. The masters in all these schools are to have small salaries, paid by the parish or department, but are to derive the chief part of their emoluments from fees. Each parish school is to be under the immediate management of a communal committee, of which the *curé* of the parish is to be *ex officio* a member, and which is also to contain one minister of each of the other religious persuasions that may exist in the commune. The whole system is placed under the direction of the member of the cabinet known in France as the minister of public instruction. The plan, in its leading principles and details, is borrowed from that which has been for some years in operation in Prussia, to which country M. Cousin was sent by the government to examine and report on it.

6. Crown of France claimed by Joseph Buonaparte, ex-king of Spain, as having become the representative of the imperial dynasty, by the death of young Napoleon.

10. Death of Joshua Brookes, F.R.S., aged seventy-two. This celebrated anatomist, during the forty years in which he taught anatomy, educated not less than 7000 pupils, many of whom attained emi-

nence in their profession. His museum, which was only inferior to that of Hunter in the number and variety of specimens, was, unhappily, in his declining years, dispersed by the hammer of the auctioneer.

15. A difference between the French chambers of peers and deputies, in consequence of the determination of the latter to allow no amendment to a bill they had passed, by which the observance of the anniversary of the death of Louis XVI., as a day of national mourning, is abolished.

20. The Hungarian diet opened by the emperor in person. One of the earliest proceedings of this assembly was the adoption of a resolution recommending the publicity of discussion in the diet, and the establishment of the liberty of the press.

21. Seven persons killed by the explosion of six powder-mills at Dartford, in Kent. 2500 lbs. of powder exploded. The shock was felt at Greenwich, a distance of ten miles.

29. MEETING OF THE REFORMED PARLIAMENT.—The new parliament was opened by commission, and the commons proceeded to the election of their speaker. Mr. Manners Sutton was proposed by lord Morpeth and sir F. Burdett; Mr. Littleton by Mr. Hume and Mr. O'Connell. After a debate of three hours, a division took place, which terminated in favour of Mr. Sutton by a majority of 241 to 31. Mr. Sutton's election was opposed because he was an anti-reformer; he was supported by ministers on the ground of his ability and experience, and also of economy, as, by his re-election to the office of speaker, the retiring pension to which he had become entitled would be saved. On February 5th the king delivered his speech in person. It lamented the continuance of civil war in Portugal, and the necessity of coercive interference, in concert with France, to effect a definitive arrangement between Belgium and Holland. It announced that the approaching termination of the charters of the Bank of England and East India Company would render necessary a revision of these establishments. It called attention to the state of the churches in England and Ireland, especially in reference to the evils of tithes and the distribution of their revenues; but suggested that the reforms in the two churches would require separate consideration. Lastly, the increasing spirit of insubordination and violence in Ireland was emphatically dwelt upon, and the necessity suggested of intrusting the crown with additional powers for punishing the disturbers of the public peace, and for strengthening the legislative union between the two kingdoms. In the lords the address was agreed to, but in the commons amendments were moved, having for their objects to

couple inquiry with coercion in the treatment of Ireland, and which gave rise to a discussion that occupied the house five nights. Amendments negatived by large majorities.

31. In *Murray v. Heath* the lord chancellor disallowed the customary right claimed by the defendant to retain a certain number of copies of all engravings executed by him for the plaintiff.

Several incendiary fires occurred during this month.

Feb. 5. The *Hibernia*, capt. Brend, from Liverpool to New South Wales, with 232 persons on board, of whom 203 were passengers going out as settlers, destroyed at sea by fire, kindled through the negligence of the second mate, in W. long. 22°, and S. lat. 4°. 150 lives lost, through the inefficiency of the boats to contain more than a third of the people on board.

6. Death of Admiral lord EXMOUTH, aged seventy-six. His father, Samuel Pellew, was a Cornish gentleman, and in that county he finished his education. He entered the navy in his fourteenth year, and attained the rank of captain in 1782. In 1796 he was raised to a baronetcy for the personal humanity and bravery he exhibited in saving the crew of an East Indiaman, which, in a heavy gale, had been driven upon the rocks near Plymouth citadel. In 1816 he concluded a treaty with the Algerines, being then the admiral on the Mediterranean station; but the treaty being almost immediately after violated, the result was the bombardment of Algiers, in which the admiral was slightly wounded, and his coat cut in pieces by grape and musket shot. For this action he was created a viscount; the city of London presented him with a magnificent sword; and the powers whose subjects (1200 Christians) had been liberated severally sent him their orders of knighthood. The admiral expired at his house at Teignmouth, after a long and severe illness.

7. T. H. Goldsmid, of the Hebrew persuasion, called to the bar by the society of Lincoln's Inn: he was the first of that creed who entered the profession.

Alderman WATMAN died in his seventieth year. He was a native of Wales. After being supported at school by an uncle, he came to London, where he entered into the service of a linen-draper. When of age he commenced business at the south end of Fleet-street, where his monument now stands. Under the excitement of the French revolution he became a politician, advocating at that early period parliamentary reform, which he just lived to see accomplished. In 1818 he supplanted sir William Curtis in the representation of the city; was sh-



riff in 1820, and in 1823 was chosen lord mayor.

12. Lord Althorp obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend the laws relative to the Irish church establishment. He estimated the revenues of the church at about 800,000*l.*; proposed the abolition of first-fruits and of church-cess (rates); the taxation of benefices above 200*l.* and of bishops' incomes; the consolidation of sees, and the grant of episcopal leases in perpetuity.—(See *Aug.* 29.)

14. **QUAKERS' AFFIRMATION.**—Joseph Pease, a Quaker, returned for the southern division of the county of Durham, having claimed on the 7th to be admitted to take his seat on his affirmation, a committee was appointed to inquire into his right, so to do. Upon the committee's report, the commons resolved that Mr. Pease was entitled to take his seat upon making his affirmation and declaration, instead of taking the usual oaths. It appeared there was only one case on the Journals, in which a similar question of a Quaker on his affirmation had occurred; that of John Archdale, returned for Chipping Wycombe in 1699. Quakers of late have in several instances been admitted barristers on making their affirmation in lieu of taking the usual oaths. A Quaker, since the repeal of the Test and Corporation Acts, has served the office of sheriff of York on his affirmation. By statutes of the last and present reign their affirmation is admitted in all cases, criminal, civil, and official.

15. **IRISH DISTURBANCES BILL.**—Earl Grey obtained leave to bring in a bill for the suppression of local disturbances and dangerous associations in Ireland. His lordship stated that between 1st January and the end of December, 1832, the number of homicides was 242; of robberies, 1179; of burglaries, 401; of burnings, 568; of houghing cattle, 290; of serious assaults, 161; of riots, 203; of illegal rescues, 353; of illegal notices, 2094; of illegal meetings, 427; of injuries to property, 796; of attacks on houses, 723; of firing with intent to kill, 328; of robbery of arms, 117; of administering unlawful oaths, 163; of resistance to legal process, 8; of turning up land, 20; of resistance to tithes, 50; of taking forcible possession, 2; making altogether a total of 9002 crimes committed in one year; and all of these crimes of a description connected with, and growing out of, the disturbed state of the country. The bill passed rapidly through its several stages in the lords, but it was pertinaciously resisted in the commons, especially by the Irish members. Ultimately, the third reading was carried March 29th, by 345 to 86. Its provisions were similar to those of for-

mer insurrection acts; empowering the lord lieutenant to prohibit public meetings considered dangerous; subjecting the inhabitants of proclaimed districts to martial law; prohibiting them from leaving their houses between sunset and sunrise; suspending the writ of *habeas corpus*, and authorizing domiciliary visits by magistrates. Amendments were carried in the commons restricting the jurisdiction of courts-martial to offences accompanied by violence or threats, and excluding the collection of tithes from the operation of the act. The act to continue in force till August 1, 1834.

20. **ATTENDANCE AND PETITIONS.**—On the motion of lord Althorp the commons agreed to meet every day except Saturday, at twelve o'clock, for private business and petitions, and to sit till three, unless the business should be sooner disposed of. At this early meeting twenty members instead of forty to form a house; and a quarter past five o'clock, instead of four, was fixed for the house assembling in the evening. It was also resolved that a select committee should, in future, be appointed at the commencement of each session to classify all petitions presented to the house, and to order the printing of such of them at length, or in abstract, as appeared to them to require it. These regulations were intended to lessen the evil of nocturnal legislation, and for bringing more readily under the notice of the house the mass of petitions requiring attention, and which had enormously increased. In the five years ending in 1789 the public petitions presented amounted only to 880; in 1805 they had increased to 1026; in 1815 to 4498; in 1831 to 24,492.

*Mar.* 1. General Jackson became a second time president of the United States of America.

5. Died, in his 52nd year, the earl of DUDLEY, a man who acquired distinction in the house of commons as Mr. Ward, and who filled the office of foreign secretary during the short ministry of Mr. Canning. His lordship expressed himself much alarmed at the republican tendency of the Reform Bill, and delivered his last, perhaps his ablest, speech against that measure in 1831. He possessed powerful talents, varied accomplishments, and a generous disposition, but his manners had always been so much marked by absence of mind, irresolution and infirmity of purpose, that few were astonished at the melancholy circumstances under which he was withdrawn from society. He experienced a succession of paralytic attacks, and had latterly sunk into that state of imbecility which Dean Swift long apprehended, and in the end fell into, as the

most dismal of human visitations. The earl's titles have expired with him, except the barony of Ward, which has devolved to a clergyman.

16. At the sale of the chattels of the late lord Eldin at Edinburgh, the drawing-room, in which the bidders had assembled, to the number of 200, fell in. Mr. Smith a banker, was killed, and several others seriously injured.

22. New York papers of this date announce the termination of the differences between the general government and South Carolina, in consequence of the passing of the new Tariff, by which the present duties are to be gradually reduced till they reach 20 per cent. *ad valorem*.

29. Died, in his 68th year, SAMUEL DREW, M.A., a well-known metaphysical writer. He was the son of a common labourer at St. Austell, in Cornwall, and at the early age of six he was taken from school and sent to work at a mill, where tanners refined their ore, and earned twopence a day. He subsequently became a book-binder, and, while so occupied in business on his own account, he prepared and published his "Essay on the Human Soul," which first brought him into public notice, and which, notwithstanding the dryness of the subject, has gone through five editions in this country and four in America, and has been translated into French. This work and some other metaphysical treatises procured him the honour of M.A. from Aberdeen. In the beginning of 1819 Mr. Drew removed to Liverpool, and thence to London to edit the *Imperial Magazine*, and to exercise a general superintendence over the works of the Caxton press; duties, which he continued to discharge until the beginning of the month in which he died.

In the last week of March London witnessed two occurrences seldom seen together,—a deep fall of snow and a glut of mackerel.

Several meetings have been held to obtain a repeal of the assessed taxes; also relative to the Factory Bill.

During the month, in consequence of lord Durham's resignation, on account of illness, the earl of Ripon became lord privy seal; Mr. Stanley, colonial secretary; sir John Hobhouse, secretary for Ireland; and Mr. Ellice, secretary-at-war.

April 3. A serious riot at Frankfort, in the course of which the people, headed by the students, took the guard-house, and liberated the persons confined for political offences. Several lives were lost, and many persons wounded, in the struggle between the students and the military.

11. Died, in his 88th year, the rev. ROWLAND HILL, the celebrated minister of Surrey Chapel, Blackfriars Road. Mr.

Hill was the sixth son of sir Rowland Hill, and uncle to lord Hill, the present commander-in-chief. He was brought up for the church, in which he received deacon's orders; and, although he afterwards separated from it, he was always tenacious of his clerical character as an episcopal minister, and wished rather to be considered a non-conformist than a dissenter. His familiar anecdotal style of oratory was addressed to the common people, among whom he was an eminently popular preacher. As a writer he is chiefly known by the "Village Dialogues," a religious work characterized by the same qualities as his preaching, and which has been surpassed by few books in popularity.

14. Day of thanksgiving for the cessation of the cholera morbus.

16. Mr. Hawes, the member for Lambeth, in presenting a petition to the commons in favour of the removal of the disabilities of the Jews, repelled the charge that they did not employ themselves in useful pursuits, by showing that there were in France 1232 Jewish landed proprietors, 796 engaged in the military profession, 7960 artisans, and 220 manufacturers.

19. Died admiral lord GAMBIER, in his 76th year, at Iver. He was the grandson of a French protestant whom the revocation of the edict of Nantes drove from his country. While a lord of the admiralty, he compiled a code of signals that superseded those introduced by James II., when duke of York. In 1807 admiral Gambier was sent to demand possession of the Danish fleet, for the successful performance of which service he was raised to the peerage and offered a pension of 2000*l.*, which he declined. In his latter years he had been much occupied with the various religious societies over which he presided, and to which he was a liberal patron.

23. The fleet of Don Pedro being in a state of mutiny for want of pay, and on account of the dismissal of admiral Sartorius for demanding it, sir J. M. Doyle and captain Crosbie were despatched on board the *Rainha*, the former to arrest Sartorius and the latter to supersede him. But sir John was himself arrested and detained, and captain Crosbie threatened with a court-martial. The differences were afterwards adjusted by a partial compliance with the demands of the fleet, and the continuance of Sartorius in the command.

29. On the motion for the repeal of the house and window taxes in the commons, lord Althorp moved a counter-resolution, declaring its inexpediency, as also of that for the reduction of the duty on malt, which had been carried against ministers, asserting that it would become necessary



to supply the deficiency in the revenue by an income tax. The counter-resolution was carried.

29. Sir John Hobhouse resigns his office and his seat for Westminster, in consequence of being unwilling to embarrass the ministry by voting for the repeal of the assessed taxes, to which he had pledged himself to his constituents. Mr. Littleton was appointed secretary for Ireland, in the room of sir John.

Influenza was very prevalent this month. According to the *Medical Gazette* of May 4th, it has been a hundred-fold more prevalent than the cholera was, and more fatal in London within the last 14 days than that disease within an equal period.

May 7. Gross outrage on the person of the president of the United States, by a man named Randolph, who, after charging general Jackson with wanton persecution, tweaked his nose.

10. Election for Westminster terminated: for colonel De Lacy Evans, radical, 2927; for sir John Hobhouse, ministerialist, 2775; for Mr. Escott, tory, 738. Sir John for 15 years had been one of the popular representatives of Westminster.

Duel at Exeter, between sir John Jeffcott, chief judge of the vice-admiralty court at Sierra Leone, and Dr. Hennis, in which the latter was mortally wounded. The coroner's inquest returned a verdict of *Wilful Murder* against all the parties concerned.

11. Lord Teynham, and a tailor named Donlan, tried in the court of king's bench, on a charge of swindling one Didymus Longford out of 1,400*l.*, under the pretence of procuring him a place under government. Both the defendants found guilty.

13. A public meeting having been called in Coldbath Fields to adopt measures for choosing a National Convention, about 1,000 persons assembled with banners, &c., in dispersing whom, much violence was committed on both sides, and one policeman, named Robert Culley, was mortally wounded with a dagger. After four days' investigation, a coroner's inquest returned a verdict of *Justifiable Homicide*; which verdict was quashed on the 30th, in the court of king's bench, on the motion of the solicitor-general.

14. London and Birmingham railway began.

Mr. secretary Stanley, in an able address, introduced resolutions for the abolishing of colonial slavery.—(See *Aug.* 29.)

15. Died EDMUND KEAN, the celebrated tragedian, in his 46th year. He was the son of a tailor, and, after struggling through great difficulties and distresses in the early part of his career, he made his *début* on the London boards in 1814, in the character of *Shylock*, his performance of which

immediately established him in that rank as an actor which he ever after maintained. His great success supplied him with the means of vicious indulgence, which he had not fortitude to resist, and by which his faculties were impaired, his health ruined, and his property dissipated. He is said to have received since 1814, in England and America, 176,000*l.*, averaging 9,000*l.* a-year.

16. Mr. Cobbett, in the commons, moved a long resolution condemnatory of Peel's currency bill of 1819. To this bill he attributed the subsequent distresses of the country in not having been accompanied with a reduction of the public debt, and an equitable adjustment of all contracts; and he called for an address, praying the king to dismiss sir R. Peel from the Privy Council. After sir R. Peel had spoken in defence, the motion was negatived by 298 to 4; and a motion by lord Althorp, that the proceedings on the resolution be expunged from the minutes, was carried by a like majority.

18. A large meeting on Newhall-hill, near Birmingham, to petition the king to dismiss his ministers; Mr. Attwood and Mr. O'Connell addressed the multitude in favour of the petition.

21. A treaty signed in London by the plenipotentiaries of Britain, France, and Holland, in which the latter cedes to Belgium the free navigation of the Scheldt and the Meuse, and a free passage through Maestricht. Other points in dispute between the two kingdoms remain unsettled.

An affray between the soldiery and the inhabitants of Neustadt, in Rhenish Bavaria, while attempting to celebrate, a second time, the "festival of Hambach." Upwards of 100 persons killed, and one cavalry regiment refused to fire on the people.

25. Trial in the court of king's bench, *Rex v. Phillips*, arising out of the revival of the calumnious libel on the duke of Cumberland, relative to the death of his valet, Sellis. The duke appeared as a witness; he detailed to the jury the circumstances of the affair as before mentioned (May 31, 1810), and exhibited the marks on his head of the blows inflicted by the assassin; which left no doubt of Sellis being his own destroyer, and the correctness of the coroner's verdict to that effect. The jury immediately found the defendant guilty.

27. A busy week commenced at court. The king's birth-day celebrated by a splendid drawing room and a grand dinner. The next day, a levee, and a dinner to the Jockey Club. Prince George of Cumberland's birth-day celebrated at Kew. A juvenile ball at St. James's in honour of the birth-day of Princess Victo-

ria. A dinner given by his Majesty to the *Nulli Secundus* club. The queen visits the Zoological Gardens.

31. Death of major-general sir JOHN MALCOLM. This distinguished soldier, statesman, and author, was born on the farm of Burnfoot, near Langholm, in 1769. He was scarcely fourteen when he was sent out to India, and rapidly made those acquisitions which formed the basis of his future distinction. Having highly distinguished himself at the fall of Seringapatam in 1799, and on other occasions, he was appointed by lord Wellesley ambassador to Persia, which had never been visited by an English ambassador since the time of Queen Elizabeth. This and his subsequent missions to that country, which were chiefly designed to counteract French influence, he discharged with ability and success. In 1827, he was prevailed upon to accept the government of Bombay, and, after effecting very important services, finally returned to this country in 1831. Sir John was the author of several literary works on the East, enumerated among the "Men of Letters" of this reign. To a subscription to a monument to his memory the pasha of Egypt subscribed 100*l*.

31. Lord Althorp, in the commons, proposed a series of resolutions as the basis of the renewal of the charter of the Bank of England.—(See Aug. 29.)

June 4. Died, in his fifty-eighth year, Peter, lord KING, who obtained much notoriety upwards of twenty years ago, by his attempts to enforce the payment of his rents *in gold*, in lieu of paper; latterly, he had been distinguished by his sharp attacks on the episcopal bench, and on all questions relating to the temporalities of the church. He was a man of great shrewdness, and the author of several works, of which the most important is a "Life of John Locke." The materials for this work were in his own possession, the great moral philosopher having been uncle to lord King's great-grandfather, Peter, first lord King, the lord-chancellor.

13. Mr. C. Grant, in the commons, brought forward the resolutions on the renewal of the charter of the East India company, and the future government of India.—(See Aug. 29.)

21. The recorder of London resigned his office on account of the feeling excited by the narrow escape of a criminal named Cox from being hanged, through his inadvertence.

July 2. Hungerford market opened.

8. DECLINE OF TURKEY.—A secret treaty, bearing this date, negotiated at Constantinople, between Russia and the Porte. Russia engaged to furnish Turkey with such forces as her exigencies may at

any time require; and the Porte engaged, at the demand of Russia, to close the Dardanelles against any foreign vessels of war. This suspicious alliance acquired the title of the treaty of "*Unkiar Skelessi*," from the name of the place where the united forces of Turkey and Russia had encamped. Such a treaty between a strong and weak state threatened to make the latter a dependancy of the former, and naturally excited jealousy among the European governments of the ulterior designs of the emperor Nicholas. But, however dangerous the connexion, it was rendered almost necessary to the existence of the Turkish power by the humiliating disasters of the preceding year. The army of a rebel vassal, that had advanced from Egypt and Syria, had conquered a great part of her Asiatic dominions, and was within a few days' march of the capital. The victory of Konieh (see Dec. 21, 1832) had laid at the foot of the conqueror the whole of Asia Minor, where there no longer remained any means of defence, and where the mass of the population was indifferent to the contest, or prepossessed in favour of the invader. Smyrna and Magnesia, both great cities, surrendered at the first summons of an Egyptian officer, accompanied by a handful of men. Meanwhile Ibrahim marched forward to Kutaiah, whence he menaced Bursa and Constantinople itself. At this crisis, the sultan Mahmoud applied for the immediate aid of his late enemy, the emperor of Russia. The latter readily listened to the application; and in the month of February an auxiliary naval force had anchored in the Bosphorus, within nine miles of Constantinople. Previously to this arrival, the other great powers had become apprehensive, and France sent admiral Roussin to Constantinople, to try to conclude peace between Mehemet Ali and the Sultan, without the intervention of the Russian arms. Terms were proposed to the Egyptian pasha, who insisted on the cession of Tarsus and Adana; the sultan hesitated—consented,—then refused. In the interim, a second Russian squadron had anchored in the Bosphorus with 5,000 troops on board, while others had crossed the Pruth and were advancing towards the Turkish frontier. The diplomacy of all Europe beset the Divan—their united voices warned Mahmoud against his dangerous ally,—and at last, on the 4th May, he consented to cede all the territories demanded by Mahemet Ali. The Egyptians immediately after began to retire from Asia Minor. But the Russians remained in the neighbourhood of Constantinople till July and did not sail from the Bosphorus till the 11th, three days after the signature of the treaty of Unkiar Skelessi; the com-



bined English and French fleets continuing to cruize off the Turkish coast till the Czar's forces had departed. By the treaty concluded with Mehemet Ali, the pasha has become incomparably a more powerful sovereign than his old master, the Sultan. He is now left in undisputed possession of Egypt, the fine island of Candia (Crete), the territories of Damascus, Tripoli in Syria, Seyd, and Safed; the districts of Adana, Jerusalem, and Naplous are also ceded to him, with the privilege of conducting pilgrims to the holy places; and his son Ibrahim is invested with the title and power of Sheikh-al-harem of Mecca and of Djidda. Mehemet Ali has now an excellent frontier, easily defended against the Turks; is master of some of the finest seaports in the world; and with the district of Adana, which he has ostensibly undertaken to farm for the sultan, he will have an invaluable supply of timber for the growing Egyptian navy. Both the pasha and the sultan have been great reformers on the European model, equal in zeal, but unequal in success, and perhaps in ability, and the favourableness of their position. Sultan Mahmoud has had more intractable interests to deal with: his destruction of the Janissaries was ably effected, but his precipitate attacks on the immunities of the privileged classes—the Ayans, or feudal lords, the municipal corporations, and oulemas, or doctors of law and religion, weakened his executive power, by rendering these powerful orders discontented; while his loss of authority with the Turkish aristocracy was not compensated to him by conciliating the masses, who were too ignorant to appreciate the risks he was incurring, and the sacrifices he was making for their benefit. It follows, that the Turkish empire—if such it can be considered, after the severance of Egypt, Greece, Algiers, Moldavia, and Wallachia—is disorganised and without strength; and only exists because it cannot be easily, nor perhaps, without a general war, partitioned among the great powers who hold it in trust, and with mutual jealousy watch over its preservation.

#### 28. DON PEDRO ENTERS LISBON.—

After the elapse of a year, and a succession of desperate conflicts between the beleaguered Pedroites in Oporto, and the Miguelites, the war took an unexpected turn in favour of Donna Maria. This was chiefly owing to the gallantry of captain Charles Napier, who had succeeded Sartorius in the command of the Pedroite squadron, and the enterprise of the brave constitutionalist count Villa Flor. On the 21st ult., Napier took on board his ships, at Oporto, 3500 troops, commanded by Villa Flor and the marquis of Palmella,

and landed them at Villa Real, after dislodging the Miguelite garrison by the fire from his squadron. The inhabitants of the Algarves seemed more favourably disposed towards the cause of the young queen than in other parts of Portugal, and Villa Flor, dividing his troops into two columns, advanced towards Lisbon. Meanwhile, captain, now admiral Napier, sailed along the coast, destroying the batteries and gun-boats of the enemy, till, July 2, he came in sight of the Miguelite fleet near Cape St. Vincent. His force was 278 guns and 2,500 men; that of the Miguelites, 360 guns and 3,250 men. Notwithstanding the disparity of force, Napier bore gallantly up to the attack, being favoured by a fresh breeze which had sprung up after the steam-vessels, attached to his squadron, had refused to expose themselves by towing his ships into action, unless paid 2,000*l.* each. The Miguelites discharged their broadsides into the Pedroites, but not a gun was fired by Napier, until he had brought his own ship alongside the Rainha, 74, which he boarded, sword in hand, in the dress of a common sailor, accompanied by a chosen band. Almost at the instant, his son, in another frigate, ran on the lee-quarter of the Rainha and also boarded her. The Rainha mustered 750 men, and the conflict of cutlasses, daggers, and crow-bars was terrific; but in less than ten minutes, in the midst of the shouts of the victors and the groans of the dying, the constitutional flag was hoisted over that of Miguel. The rest of Miguel's ships were panic-struck. The Miguelite admiral did not do his duty; he kept his huge ship out of action as long as he could, and surrendered after receiving one broadside. The whole of the Miguelite squadron was captured, except a corvette and two brigs, and carried into Lagos bay. Events followed on land hardly less brilliant. Villa Flor attacked the Miguelites in the vicinity of Lisbon, and defeated them, though double in number to his own troops, and killed their ablest general, Telles Jorda. The night after this defeat, the Miguelite governor evacuated Lisbon, and Villa Flor entered the capital. The citizens opened the prisons of 5,000 persons confined for political offences, and proclaimed Donna Maria. While these advantages were gaining in the south, the Miguelites, directed by marshal Bourmont, were making desperate but unsuccessful efforts to carry Oporto by storm. News arriving of the capture of Lisbon, Don Pedro left Oporto for the capital, into which he made his triumphal entrance on the 28th. This now became the centre of military operations, and the year closed, leaving Don Miguel still with

large forces, and the country, except in Oporto and Lisbon, generally devoted to his cause.

29. A strong sensation in London from its having been found that sir John Key, one of the city members, was interested in government contracts for paper, and that a son of his, a minor, had been appointed to a responsible situation in the stationery office, at the solicitation, and on the representation of his father that he was of full age. After this business, sir John resigned his seat in parliament for the city, and was called upon to resign his gown as alderman of Langbourne ward, which he declined to comply with.

DEATH OF WILLIAM WILBERFORCE.—This popular religious writer, philanthropist, and parliamentarian, terminated a long public life, in the 74th year of his age, at Cadogan-place, Chelsea. He descended from an old and opulent mercantile family of Hull, in Yorkshire, of which town his grandfather was twice mayor. It was for this borough Mr. Wilberforce was first returned to parliament, and for which he sat till chosen in 1784 for Yorkshire, a county he represented up to 1812, when he exchanged its laborious duties for the less irksome ones of Bramber, and finally relinquished all senatorial functions, in 1825, by accepting the Chiltern Hundreds. Humanity and pious enthusiasm were the leading traits in the character of this amiable person. His father dying while he was very young, the care of his education devolved upon his mother, who placed him under the tuition of the rev. Joseph Milner, an evangelical clergyman, from whom he imbibed those doctrinal impressions, which, after a brief flutter of natural but harmless gaiety, influenced his subsequent life. Constitutionally kind, lively, benevolent and virtuous, Wilberforce had precisely those qualities which calvinistic methodism has no tendency to ameliorate. It was to religion, however, that he chiefly owed his vast influence; and none of his contemporaries, not in official power, exercised greater, both in parliament and the country. His speech against lord Melville, is said to have carried along with it forty members; an extraordinary achievement, and quite in contradiction to the common opinion, that the best parliamentary oratory never converts a single vote. He was indeed an effective and very persuasive speaker; mild, yet earnest and pathetic; a diction, pure, copious, elegant, and impressive, was aided by a voice of unequalled power and sweetness. It was not by enlarged and liberal views, nor accuracy and extent of information, that he succeeded, but by the unquestioned sincerity and integrity of his motives. Car-

ried away by the intensity of his convictions, he was frequently unjust to adversaries; was led unconsciously into exaggerations that were untrue, and into unworthy imputations against those whose aims were not less laudable than his own, though sought to be differently realised. There was in this, the intolerant zeal as well as the narrow-minded bigotry that would measure everything by its own standard. His self-denial was great, almost ostentatious; his pleasure was in bestowing rather than in receiving; he might have accumulated riches, honours, and offices on himself, but preferred dispensing them to others. He was vain, fond of power; but, like Madame Maintenon with Louis XIV., loved to pull the wires softly and unseen. It was no mean ambition to seek to lead the great county of York; to be at the head of the religious world; the confidant of the inner cabinet of Pitt, Dundas, Jenkinson, and Scott, in the most eventful times of our history, and, on trying and critical emergencies, to turn the balance of legislative wisdom. Mr. Wilberforce did not surrender this flattering prominence without regret, and which he had made great sacrifices of purse and person to maintain, in keeping open house for politicians—holding levees for all applicants—submitting to have his moral sensibilities wounded by the profane and licentious—loitering at the saloons of the great and fashionable—laborious and costly elections and canvassings—tedious waitings at the Treasury and at Lambeth, for livings, contracts, and appointments, for his constituents—and, lastly, keeping up with everybody and everywhere that eternal “chatteration,” which he considered the great vice of godly people. In retiring from the representation of Yorkshire, he observes, “I cannot deny that I feel very deeply the loss of my high situation and being out of the *dramatis personæ*, whilst all my friends are acting their parts.”—(*Life by his Sons*, iii., 536.) Mr. Wilberforce was not a party man, though he generally voted on one side; which arose probably from the principle he held, that we ought generally to incline to the support of men in power, and which might have led him to give his aid to the whigs, as uniformly as he did to the tories, had they been in authority. He was opposed to the commencement of the war of 1793, but by a stratagem of Mr. Pitt—for he appears, on this and other occasions, to have been the half-willing dupe of political jockeyship—he was kept from a public declaration of his sentiments; and, after 1797, he was favourable to the continuance of hostilities, as necessary to national security. In person, which was meagre and



diminutive, he had a strong resemblance to the portraits given of Voltaire, and, though the very opposite of the infidel philosopher in sentiment, he had much of his subtle wit, quick perception of the ludicrous, sagacity, and satirical pleasantry. He foresaw clearly that catholic emancipation would not satisfy the Irish; that the still greater grievances of heretic teachers, and the usurpation of the honours and emoluments of the catholic church, would remain.—(*Ibid.* iii. 362.) “There is nothing,” says he, “too foolish for men to believe.” “Consult the topic ‘*Aristocratism*,’ and you will find all great men hate public meetings.” “The good are not so good as they seem;” and the vicious, he might have added, are not without some redeeming virtues. “The first manifest effect of party is that half the talents, not to say all the talents of the country, are employed in thwarting and opposing, instead of promoting, public measures.”—(*Vol.* ii. 456.) “Parties divide on law and arithmetic as well as politics.”—(*Ibid.*) Against too much brevity in popular writing, he said “Do not curtail too much; portable soup must be diluted before it can be used.” The great work of the abolition of the African slave-trade—which the example of Granville Sharpe and the indefatigable Thomas Clarkson set him upon, and Stephens and Macauley aided him in carrying forward, constitutes his most enduring monument; and he pursued it with a singleness of purpose that admitted only glancing views at nearer and not less flagrant injustice. There was, indeed, a loftiness in the aspirations of Wilberforce, that delighted to concentrate its gaze on the remote and elevated points of the circle of humanity. His “*Practical View of Christianity*” referred chiefly to the higher and middle classes, among whom theological tenets are generally more acceptable than the practical precepts of the gospel. He did not, like Howard, “gauge the miseries of jails,” and was too regardless of the enormous social evils arising from indigence and popular ignorance. As a lawgiver he was neither gifted nor well-placed. The business of modern legislation refers to the present life, but Mr. Wilberforce viewed everything in relation to the future; which would have been more appropriate in a convocation of divines than among the worldlings of the house of commons. Through an unfortunate farming speculation of one of his sons he suffered, at an advanced age, a great loss of property. Those painful doubts, too, almost inseparable from his peculiar faith, and which nothing save his constitutional vivacity could have enabled him to sustain, weighed heavy upon him in his latter

moments. “I am,” says he, “in a very distressed state.”—“Yes,” was the reply, “but you have your feet on the rock.” To which he rejoined, “I do not venture to speak so positively, but I hope I have.”—(*Life by his Sons*, v. 373.) A career of virtue, like that of William Wilberforce, ought to have won for him a more firm and tranquil assurance. His life had been spent in doing good. Out of an income of 8000*l.* a-year, he disbursed upwards of 2000*l.* in acts of charity and beneficence. It shows how highly he was esteemed by his Yorkshire constituents, who subscribed 64,445*l.* to defray his expenses in the great election struggle for the county between Milton and Lascelles, in 1809.

Aug. 1. Mr. R. Grant’s bill for the removal of the civil disabilities of the Jews lost in the lords by a majority of 104 to 54.

3. The remains of the late Mr. Wilberforce interred in Westminster Abbey, at the request of the most distinguished members of both houses of parliament; 30 peers and 130 commoners attended the funeral of the deceased.

9. Part of the Dublin custom-house warehouses destroyed by fire, with property to the amount of 400,000*l.*

15. Donna Maria acknowledged queen of Portugal at Lisbon, by the government, through Lord William Bentinck, who at the same time presented his credentials as English minister. France, Sweden, and Spain also acknowledged the young queen.

29. CLOSE OF THE FIRST REFORM SESSION.—The king came in person to pro-rogue parliament. The session had been unusually protracted and laborious. The house of commons had sat 142 days, or 1270 hours. The average number of hours each day used to be four and a half or five hours; but during the whole of this session the house had been occupied on an average nine hours daily, and, since Easter, very considerably more than 12 hours. The subjects legislated upon were of great national importance, referring to the state of Ireland, the renewal of the charters of the Bank of England and East India Company, and the abolition of colonial slavery. Of the statutes on these matters that received the royal assent, it will be suitable to give an outline.

*Church and Tithes of Ireland.*—The chief statute on these subjects is the 3 and 4 Wm. 4, c. 37, relative to the temporalities of the Irish church. By it the number of bishops is reduced from twenty-two to twelve, by the union of sees, as the present incumbents die off. After the death of the present incumbents, also, the income of the archbishopric of Armagh is to be reduced

from its present amount of 14,500*l.*, to 10,000*l.*, and that of all the other sees which may be worth more than 4000*l.* a year, to that sum, with the exception of the bishopric of Derry, the value of which is at present about 12,000*l.*, and which is to be reduced immediately to 8000*l.*, and eventually to 6000*l.* The leases of the bishops' lands are to be converted into perpetuities, by which it is supposed that a sum of about 1,000,000*l.* sterling (it was originally calculated at three times that amount) will be realized. The exaction of vestry-cess is abolished. So is also that of first-fruits; in the stead of which there is to be imposed upon all livings above the actual yearly value of 300*l.* an annual tax, varying in its rate according to the value of the living. The money arising from these different sources is to be paid to a board of commissioners, and is, under their direction, to be applied to the augmentation of small benefices, the meeting of those expenses hitherto defrayed by the church-rates, and other purely ecclesiastical objects. The board is also to have the power of suspending the appointment of ministers to parishes in the gift of the king, or of any ecclesiastical corporation, in which no service has been performed for the space of three years. Another act, the 3 and 4 Wm. 4. c. 100, empowers the government to make advances, to the amount of ONE MILLION, to such of the clergy as had not been able to recover the tithes due to them, to be repaid by five annual instalments. Such of the clergy as accept this aid are to give up their claim to all unpaid tithes for 1830 and preceding years; and also to submit to a deduction of 25 per cent. on those of 1831 and 1832, and of 15 per cent. on those of 1833. By an act passed the preceding session, 2 and 3 Wm. 4. c. 119, it had already been enacted that, after the 1st of November, 1833, the tenants of land should no longer be liable to the payment of tithes, but that that burden should, in all cases, fall upon the landlord. Proceeding upon the principle of this salutary change, the present act provides for the repayment of the advance to be now made to the clergy, by extending the liability of the landlords back to the year 1831, inclusive, and making them the parties from whom the five instalments are to be demanded. Of course they have, in turn, their remedy against the occupiers of the soil. The effect of these arrangements is to place the clergy, in respect of their incomes, altogether out of the way of collision with the mass of the population. The church may still be objectionable, as not being national, or as being kept up at too great an expense for the

good it does, but it has ceased to be a catholic grievance, and the burden of its maintenance is thrown almost entirely on the protestant landlords. Acts were also passed for the reform of grand and petty juries, the former exercising far greater powers in Ireland than in England, and more analogous to those of a provincial parliament. The provisions of the Irish Coercion Act have been already stated, *Feb.* 15.

With less noise and discussion than had accompanied the passing of the Irish bills, Scotland benefited largely by the legislative toils of the year. Without the preliminary of a commission to inquire into abuses that had long been notorious, the lord advocate, seconded by the lord chancellor in the upper house, brought in and carried two bills to reform the election of magistrates and councils in the *royal and parliamentary burghs of Scotland*. The reform of these corporations had been loudly demanded by the public voice for nearly half a century. Delegates had been appointed so early as 1787, to proceed to London, to manage an application to parliament, and a committee of the commons made a report on the subject in 1793. The war broke out, reform of every description was dropped, and the public heard nothing further on the Scotch burghs till lord Archibald Hamilton, May 6, 1819, moved for a committee of inquiry, which was carried despite of Mr. Canning, who opposed the motion on the ground that a reform of the burghs would be a reform of parliament. Nothing, however, was done, except imposing some restrictions on the powers hitherto exercised by the magistrates in the expenditure of the burgh funds; but not touching the existing system in other respects. This was reserved for the reformed parliament, and the passing of the two bills, and of a third statute for the improvement of the police of the burghs, has almost perfected the municipal government of Scotland.

One of the most generous acts of legislation ever recorded, perhaps, of any assembly is that for the *Abolition of Colonial Slavery*. The African slave-trade had been abolished in 1807; but the act of the present session abolished slavery itself in the West Indies. All children under six years of age, or born after Aug. 1, 1834, are declared free; all registered slaves above six years become, from the same date, apprenticed labourers, divided into two principal classes, *prædial*, or those employed in agriculture, and the non-*prædial*; the apprenticeships of the former to expire Aug. 1, 1838, of the latter, Aug. 1, 1840. The hours of labour of the *prædial* apprentice not to exceed forty-five in any one week, and for which they are to be paid



either by being boarded and lodged, or by receiving a sum in money weekly. By the transition into the apprentice state, the slave immediately entered into the chief immunities of a freeman; he could not be arbitrarily punished by his master, and became eligible to give evidence in criminal and civil courts, to serve on juries, and in the militia. One of the chief difficulties to settle was in determining the compensation to be given to the owners of slaves for the loss of their compulsory services. A very small party in the commons was in favour of the immediate and entire emancipation of the negroes, and that without any compensation whatever: ministers at first proposed advancing a loan of fifteen millions to the West India proprietors; subsequently this loan was transmuted into a gift of 20,000,000*l.*, by which liberal donation, Mr. Secretary Stanley said, the whole plan would ensure the cordial co-operation of the planters and colonial legislatures. On this basis it was settled, and an end put to a question which had formed almost the exclusive subject of public interest and agitation by the religious portion of the community during the last half-century.

*The Government of Hindostan* formed a more important subject of legislation than the preceding, affecting a population of 100 millions, whereas the slavery bill applied only to 800,000 blacks. But the welfare of the Hindoos excited much less interest both among members of Parliament and their constituents, and may be partly ascribed to the West India question involving a great moral principle, while the state of our Oriental empire was either a legislative subject of which few were competent to form an opinion, or interesting only to a limited class of commercialists, whom ministers had conciliated by at once conceding a free trade to China, and the other points for which they had petitioned and agitated. The new legislation for India was comprised in three statutes, numbered chapters 85, 93, and 101 of the session; the first applied to the renewal of the charter of the East India Company, and the future government of India; the second regulates the trade to China and India; and the third refers to the collection and management of the duties on tea. The charter of the Company is renewed for the term of twenty years, from April 30, 1834, under certain restrictions:—1. The Chinese trade is thrown open; 2. That on the company transferring to the crown all their effects and claims, the latter is to take upon itself the Company's obligations, and to pay them a certain sum annually from the Indian revenue; and 3. The political go-

vernment of India is continued to the Company for twenty years, the Company abandoning their commercial pursuits. These were the outlines of the new Indian administration. Subordinate provisions were made for the landing, residence, and settlement of British subjects in India; for the creation of two new bishopricks in India, in addition to that of Calcutta; for the mitigation and gradual abolition of slavery in the East; and for the appointment of a law commission to inquire into and improve the existing laws, police, and courts of justice of Hindostan.

*Charter of the Bank of England.*—There was an elaborate inquiry in the session of 1832, by a parliamentary committee, of which Lord Althorp was chairman, into the expediency of renewing the charter of the Bank, and, in the course of the present session, there were protracted discussions both on the bank charter and the general state of the currency. The three questions on which the legislature were divided were, first, as to the expediency of continuing the exclusive privileges of the Bank, and maintaining it in the position it had long held, of being the principal and governing monetary association of the empire; to this policy ministers were favourable, and, also, as it appeared, a large majority of the parliament. There were, however, two classes of economists, one of whom advocated the scheme of a national bank, to be managed by the government, and its profits accrue to the public; while another was against any monopoly, and would have had the trade of issuing notes left perfectly free, like any other branch of private business. There was, also, a fourth party, but their notions were not restricted to banking—they extended to the general state of the currency, and aimed at its depreciation by a copious issue of paper, in order to counteract the alleged effect of Peel's bill. To the expedient of altering the standard of value there was a salutary repugnance, and government succeeded in defeating this and other suggestions in opposition to their own propositions for the renewal of the Bank charter. The Bank, however, was deprived of two of its privileges: first, the restriction which prohibited other banks from drawing bills on London for less than 50*l.* is abolished; and banks beyond the distance of 65 miles may now issue notes, and make them payable in London, for any sum not under 5*l.* Secondly, banks of deposit may now be established in London, or within 65 miles of it, having more than six partners: in truth, the bank had never any privilege in this respect, and it was a popular error to suppose that banking firms of more than six could not legally

exist in the metropolis prior to the act of 1833. Another concession obtained from the Bank is a reduction, to the amount of 120,000*l.*, in a charge of about 280,000*l.* the directors annually made for the management of the public debt, &c. Further, the Bank is required to publish monthly, in the *London Gazette*, a statement of its assets, and amount of notes in circulation. A like obligation of making periodical returns of their issues of notes was imposed, during the session, on the country banks. The Bank obtained one important privilege, its paper is made a *legal tender* for all sums above 5*l.*, except by the Bank itself, or its branches; so that a bank-note is made equivalent to gold if offered in acquittance of a debt or other obligation exceeding 5*l.* This clause parliament left open to be rescinded, if it thought fit, before the termination of the new charter. There is another enactment of general interest, namely, that by which bills of exchange drawn for not exceeding three months are exempt from the usury laws. The charter is renewed under these limitations till August, 1855, with this reservation, however, that it might be put an end to, should parliament choose, in 1845, by a year's previous notice being given.

In addition to these great legislative measures, elaborately discussed and settled, various taxes were repealed, the public estimates reduced, and financial and judicial amendments adopted. The following is a title of the subordinate matters effected during the session:—

Total repeal of the duty on tiles.  
 Repeal of 2*s.* stamp-duty on advertisements.  
 Reduction of duty on marine insurances.  
 Reduction of assessed taxes on shops, &c.  
 Repeal of stamp-duty on receipts under 5*l.*  
 Repeal of additional duty (1821) on raw cotton.  
 Reduction of half the duty on soap.  
 Protection of dramatic copyrights.  
 Improvement of London police act.  
 General watching and lighting act for England.  
 Limitation of actions relative to real property.  
 Improving judicial administration.  
 Offices abolished and reformed in the Court of Chancery.  
 Copyhold estates made assets for payment of simple contract equally with specialty debts.  
 Laws of dower and inheritance amended.  
 Punishment of death abolished for burglary.  
 Fines and recoveries abolished.

Laws amended relative to sewers, factories, insane persons, high roads in Scotland, and sale of beer in Ireland, &c.

About 166 private bills were introduced, discussed, passed, and received the royal assent. An account appeared of the number of *times* each member of the commons spoke during this memorable working session, and how many columns in the "*Mirror of Parliament*" his speeches occupied. Upwards of 11,000 speeches were delivered, and the six most frequent speakers were:—

	Times.	Cols.	Lines.
Lord Althorp . .	1026	387	22
Mr. O'Connell . .	647	388	88
Mr. Hume . . .	601	253	73
Mr. E. G. Stanley	292	192	2
Mr. Cobbett . . .	261	151	88
Sir Robert Peel .	106	132	26

*Aug. 30.* A great fire at Constantinople, by which one-fourth of the city is destroyed. It is attributed to incendiaries and the result of public discontents.

31. The ship *Amphitrite*, conveying convicts to New South Wales, and having on board 103 female convicts, 12 children, and a crew of 16 men, was driven on the Boulogne sands, in the heavy gale which commenced on the 29th. Those on board might, probably, have been saved before the return of the tide, but, apparently through the captain's doubt as to his authority to allow the convicts to escape to the shore, as well as through the sanitary regulations of the French, all, except three of the crew, were drowned.

A regular daily mail, Sunday excepted, established between England and France.

*Sept. 7.* Died, aged 88, Mrs. HANNAH MORE. This distinguished lady was one of five daughters of the schoolmaster of a charity-school, and afterwards of a private school, at Bristol. Mrs. More's moral and religious works are very numerous, and established for her a very considerable literary reputation; while the circumstance that she had numbered Garrick, Johnson, Burke, Reynolds, and Wilberforce, among her friends and correspondents, attached a powerful interest to her person. It was at one time contemplated to intrust her with the education of the Princess Charlotte; but, as she would not accept a limited control, the design was abandoned. She is said to have realized 30,000*l.* by her writings; and, by her will, 10,000*l.* is distributed among various religious and charitable institutions.

11. At this date 20,000 persons had perished from cholera since the 5th of August.



22. The young Queen of Portugal arrived at Lisbon, and was well received by the inhabitants.

24. The Corporation of Leicester refused to deliver up to his Majesty's commissioners, for the purpose of inquiring into the state of Municipal Corporations, certain documents and accounts required by them, as well as to submit to a personal and public examination before them. The corporations of Norwich, Maidstone, and the Merchant Tailors' Company of London, subsequently followed the example.

29. **DEATH OF FERDINAND VII.**—The King of Spain was in his fiftieth year, and his demise, which was reported to have taken place almost a twelvemonth before, was an event that had long been expected. His life had been one of painful vicissitudes, and of more trouble than experienced by many of his subjects. Ever since the embroilment with his father in 1808, which afforded a pretext for the interference of Napoleon in Spanish affairs, his name had been conspicuous in Europe, but mostly associated with acts of weakness and tyranny. His death became the signal for the breaking out of fresh political dissensions, the origin of which it will be proper to explain. Ferdinand was four times married; by his first three wives he had no surviving issue, but by his fourth and last wife, Maria Christina, daughter of Francis I. King of the Two Sicilies, whom he had espoused Dec. 11, 1829, he left two daughters, the eldest, Isabella, born Oct. 10, 1830; and the younger born Jan. 30, 1832. The king, fond of his young spouse, naturally wished to secure the royal succession to their progeny, and there was nothing in the ancient or existing laws of Spain to frustrate his desire. The crown of Spain had followed the example of almost every other European country except France, and descended to the next inheritor, whether male or female, either by right of primogeniture, or the testamentary grant of the reigning sovereign. It was only in 1714 that Philip V. violated the established usage, by adopting the Salic law of the French, which excludes females from the throne, and abrogated the ancient law of succession in the Spanish monarchy. The act was considered despotic, and in the absence of female claimants was practically inoperative. Philip V. was succeeded in 1746 by his son Ferdinand VI., who, dying in 1759, left the throne to his brother Charles III. The latter in 1788 was succeeded by his son Charles IV. the father of Ferdinand VII. But, though inoperative, the law of Philip V. was in force till repealed. This had been done some time previously to the late king's death. In 1830, before the

birth of his daughter, Ferdinand by a royal ordinance formally restored the ancient law of succession, which permitted females to inherit the throne. The Salic law was thus abolished by an authority equal to that by which it had been introduced. Still further to fortify the right of his daughter, Ferdinand exercised in her behalf another prerogative, and named her his successor in his will; and by the same instrument he appointed the queen regent till the infanta Isabella attained the age of eighteen years. Notwithstanding this two-fold settlement, Ferdinand's brother, Charles Maria Isidore, commonly called Don Carlos, claimed the throne in virtue of the Salic law, which had been repealed, had only temporally existed in Spain, and was never practically in force. The conflicting claims of the uncle and niece are nationally important, chiefly as involving the triumph of one or the other of the two political parties into which Spain is divided. The rights of Isabella II. are supported by the liberals, the pretensions of Don Carlos by the absolutists. Before the king's death the queen manifested a favourable disposition towards the constitutionalists; it was manifest that, guided by the councils of M. Zea, the chief minister, she depended upon their support for securing the succession to her infant daughter. Ferdinand was no sooner dead than the Carlists were in motion, headed by monks, monopolists, and a few conservative grandees. Their strength lies chiefly in Navarre, Catalonia, and the Biscayan provinces; they have also adherents in Old Castile, and Estremadura. The chief strength of the constitutionalists is in Madrid, and in the provinces of Andalusia, Murcia, Valencia, and other districts bordering the Mediterranean. The queen regent was not slow in adopting vigorous and popular measures to counteract the Carlists. With the aid of the provincial militia and volunteers, she disbanded in October, after some resistance and bloodshed, the royalist volunteers of the capital, and in Toledo. In the same month decrees were issued attacking the pervading system of privileges and monopolies; and commissions were appointed to remodel the laws respecting the post-office, the censorship of the press, and public education. At the same time a prudence was observed in not unnecessarily disturbing existing interests and prejudices, and the error in which the Spanish patriots had formerly lost themselves, by playing at the game of constitution-making, was especially shunned. Towards the end of the year, General Saarsfield had succeeded in driving the Carlist bands into their fastnesses, and the

civil war appeared nearly at an end. Unfortunately the successes of the Queenites were accompanied with the exercise of great cruelties on their opponents, which was both criminal and impolitic.

Oct. 25. Numerous meetings held about this time to pass resolutions against the payment of the assessed taxes. This day the populace rescued the property of Mr. Savage of Marylebone, which had been seized for arrears of taxes.

26. Harmer and Wilson, sheriffs, proceeded in person to make a levy on the goods of householders who had refused to pay the assessed taxes. It was only requisite to enforce the seizure in the case of one person, the others either paying the demand or allowing others to pay for them.

Nov. 4. The missionaries of a new French sect called *St. Simonians* appear in London. They inveigh against the corruption, chicanery, and slavery of society, but do not propound any intelligible scheme by which they can be obviated. They profess to seek or worship a mystical personage, designated the "Mother," whom they describe to be "the first woman of superior intelligence, who shall perceive the path which reason points out, and possesses sufficient moral courage to act upon the principle she has discovered." They wear a tunic coat, the neck uncovered, and a red waistcoat.

18. Sir John Herschel embarks for the Cape of Good Hope, for the purpose of making observations on the stars of the southern hemisphere.

19. Instructions issued from the Colonial Office, describing the measures necessary to be taken by the local authorities in the West Indies, in carrying into effect the Slavery Abolition Bill.

28. On a criminal trial in the Old Bailey, two witnesses appeared who refused to be sworn in the usual way, avowing themselves *atheists*. Counsel refused to interrogate them, and they withdrew from the court amidst strong expressions of disgust.

Numerous incendiary fires of barns and agricultural produce, in this and the preceding months. The counties in which these outrages chiefly occurred, were Norfolk, Suffolk, Northampton, Wiltshire, and Hampshire.

Dec. 2. Trial in the court of king's bench of W. J. Bankes, M.P., and a soldier, for sodomy. The Jury brought in a verdict of *not guilty*, and the foreman declared that the defendants would leave the court without a stain upon their characters.

2. The Anatomy Schools at Cambridge fired by the mob, the windows broken, and some of the skeletons and preparations

destroyed, in consequence of the discovery that the body of a pauper, instead of being interred, had been removed to the schools.

7. John Statlian, a noted incendiary, executed in front of Cambridge gaol. By a confession which he made, it appears that he destroyed eleven extensive barns successively, by the following plan: he rolled some combustible matter in a quantity of linen, which, at a favourable opportunity, he inserted in the stack. The property which he had been the means of destroying is calculated at the value of 60,000*l.*, and his sole motive was the paltry consideration of 6*s.* 6*d.*, which he was accustomed to receive for giving notice to the fire-office of the commencement of the calamity.

23. After several days' hearing, an important case, as affects religious trusts, was decided in the Vice-Chancellor's Court. The object of it was to take out of the hands of the trustees, members of a Unitarian chapel, certain funds known by the name of Dame Sarah Hewley's Charity, and left for the purpose of inculcating Trinitarian doctrines. The Vice was of opinion that the defendants, holding Unitarian opinions, were not objects of Lady Hewley's charity; and the Court, therefore, could not allow the charity any longer to be administered by trustees who denied the divinity of Christ and the doctrine of original sin.

23. The French Chambers opened by the King in person. The royal speech gave a flattering description of the state of France, both at home and abroad.

MISCELLANIES.—The present year, which has been unusually stormy, proved very disastrous to the shipping interest. The maritime losses recorded to the 15th inst. amounted to 20,000 tons of shipping.

Mr. Schmaltz of Dresden has published a table of the number of deaf and dumb persons dispersed over the leading countries of Europe in the year 1830. It shows that in all the proportion is nearly the same, namely, one deaf and dumb in every 1539 of the general mass of the population.

It is computed that there are 13,000 blind persons in England and Wales.

It appears from the reports of the Commissioners of Excise Inquiry, that the number of *auctioneers* in England is 3040; Scotland, 378; Ireland, 278: total, 3686.

As a means of moral and architectural improvement in London, Mr. Smirke has offered some useful suggestions. He proposes to open handsome streets through St. Giles's and other central parts of the metropolis, now chiefly the resort of vice and wretchedness, and locate their inhabitants



in more commodious and economical dwellings erected on the unoccupied wastes and ground-plots in the environs of the capital.

STATISTICS OF POLAND.—According to returns made in 1833, the kingdom of Poland contains 453 towns, of which 212½ belong to the Crown, and 240½ are private property; 22,545 villages, of which 5296 belong to the Crown, and 17,249 are private property. The kingdom is divided into 2081 parishes and 5607 communes, which contain 485,176 houses, of which 401,257 are in the country and 83,919 in the towns. The male population amounts to 1,933,390; the female population to 1,981,275: total, 3,914,665. The population of the towns is 838,875; the rural population, 3,075,790. The number of Roman Catholics is 3,237,448; belonging to the Greek church, 106,936; Lutherans, 177,806; Reformed Calvinists, 3815; Jews, 383,102; Mahometans, &c., 5558.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—On his return from South America, Captain Lyon, the traveller; he commanded two of the expeditions sent out to explore the Arctic regions. William Bray, 97, antiquary, and editor of the "Memoirs of Evelyn." General Sir Banastre Tarleton, 78, an officer distinguished in the American war of independence, and twenty-two years M.P. for Liverpool. At Southampton, O'Keefe, 86, a popular dramatist. At St. Albans, Sir William Domville, 91, formerly a bookseller, and lord mayor on the occasion of the grand entertainment given in 1813 in Guildhall to the allied sovereigns. Earl Fitzwilliam, 86, a popular and patriotic Yorkshire nobleman of Whig principles. J. I. Smith, 67, keeper of the prints in the British Museum, and author of several works on the antiquities of London. Sir Christopher Robinson, 67, judge of the High Court of Admiralty. Dr. Babington, 76, father of the London physicians, and agreeable associate of the chief philosophers of the last half-century, from Priestley to Davy: a subscription amounting to 1300*l.* was raised for the erection of a monument to his memory in St. Paul's cathedral. Admiral Sir H. Blackwood, late commander at the Nore and groom of the bedchamber to the King. William Morgan, 56 years actuary to the Equitable Assurance Company, during which he had seen the rise of that association from a capital of a few thousands to one of several millions. At Paris, of an inveterate cancer in the throat, Savary, Duke of Rovigo, a faithful but servile instrument of Napoleon's despotism: since the accession of the Orleans family the Duke had been recalled from obscurity and made governor of Algiers. Agar Ellis, Lord

Dover, 36, a literary nobleman and patron of the arts, who was also the author of several historical works, and of some able articles both in the *Quarterly* and *Edinburgh Reviews*. George Granville Leveson Gower, first Duke of Sutherland, 75; for many years he was a Pittite, but voted in favour of the Reform Bill: he was a munificent patron of the arts, which he was well enabled to be by his vast income of 300,000*l.* per annum, formed by the union of the Stafford, Bridgewater, and Sutherland possessions. Godfrey Higgins, 62, a magistrate of Yorkshire, of a strong and original mind, who was the author of *Horæ Sabbaticæ*, in which he endeavoured to show that the Christian Sunday was a human and secular institution for the purpose of festivity, not worship. At Chelsea, of cholera, H. H. Haworth, an eminent botanist and entomologist. John Gordon Smith, M.D., 41, professor of medical jurisprudence in the London University, and author of some valuable works on that important subject. At Stapleton Park, near Bristol, Rajah Rammohun Roy, a learned Hindoo of the Brahminical caste, who sought to reform the idolatrous worship of his countrymen: he had resided three years in England, partly on a mission connected with the renewal of the charter of the East India Company, and evinced much curiosity respecting Christianity, but died in the Hindoo faith. Richard Heber, 60, formerly M.P. for Oxford, and celebrated bibliomaniac, which pursuit he enthusiastically followed with the advantages of celibacy and a large fortune. Mr. Heber's accumulation of books was immense: his houses in London, at Paris, Brussels, Antwerp, and Ghent, were converted into vast depôts of literary stores. Notwithstanding all these pains, and occasionally of energy, Heber's life realized no object save that of merely collecting, and he died deserted by society, in seclusion, melancholy, and self-abandonment. He was passionately fond of letters, without becoming an author; a devoted admirer of parliamentary oratory, without once venturing, in the house of commons, to become a speaker. His will, after a long search, was found on a bookshelf, where it had been apparently carelessly thrown, and his vast collection of books, many of them in parcels that had never been opened, was dispersed by public auction. At Lewes, John Ellman, 78, a practical agriculturist of nearly sixty years' experience, who contributed to improve the breed of Southdown sheep. In London, of apoplexy, Andrew Picken, 45, a Scotchman, who, after sustaining serious commercial reverses, produced several novels, tales, and compilations of consi-

derable merit and originality. At Paris, Marshal Jourdan, 71, almost the last representative of the military glories of the republic. Jourdan was among the first who discovered the ambitious views of Buonaparte, which lost him the confidence along with the favourable opinion of that dazzling adventurer. "Jourdan is a poor general," said Napoleon at St. Helena, "but he possessed the virtues rare among his competitors of honour, integrity, and humanity." At Calais, General Edward Stacken, after a changeful and adventurous career. He was an Irish Catholic, and in his youth was one of the aides-de-camp of Louis XV.; went to America with Lafayette; was on board Paul Jones's ship *Le Bon Homme Richard*, when she took the *Seraphis*; served in the East Indies under the Marquis de Bouillé; was at Coblenz with the emigrant French princes; was one of Napoleon's *détenus* on the rupture of the peace of Amiens; was a fellow-prisoner of the Duke d'Enghien, and died at a very advanced age a major-general in the British service. Henry George Herbert, second Earl of Carnarvon, 60; though his lordship started in political life as the friend of Mr. Fox, and was strongly attached to the Whig party, he gave a determined opposition to the Reform Bill. The neglect he experienced on the formation of the Grey ministry, and which arose from his bodily infirmities, was the imputed cause of this dereliction. William Sotheby, 77, the distinguished translator of Homer and of Wieland's Oberon.

A.D. 1834. TRADES' UNIONS.—In addition to ministerial changes, both in England and France, the final expulsion of Don Miguel from Portugal, and the passing of the poor law amendment act, the occurrences of the present year are diversified with the proceedings of the trade societies. These unions of operatives were not less active at Paris, Lyons, and Brussels, than in London, Dublin, Manchester, and Leeds. As workmen can only form effective combinations against their employers when their services are in urgent request, the existence of the numerous associations to keep up the price of labour are evidence of the industrial activity now pervading Europe. Up to the year 1824 the law of England made it a crime for workmen to combine, even in the most peaceable manner, for the purpose of obtaining a rise, or preventing a fall, of their wages. But in that year parliament abolished this invidious restriction, and workmen were allowed the same liberty in fixing the price of their labour that capitalists exercised in fixing the prices of their commodities. The old

law was inefficient as well as inequitable. It did not, in fact, prevent the offence it prohibited. Trades' unions were formed and maintained in the face of it. They existed in the metropolis and all the chief towns; and its chief tendency was to render proceedings, that would have been open, secret and stealthy. Besides keeping up the price of labour by the only just mode of sustaining its value, that of refusing to sell it, the unionists adopted regulations that infringed the liberty to others they sought to exercise themselves. The number of apprentices to be taken by masters and the time of their servitude was to be regulated by the union; the employment of any but regularly associated workmen was, if possible, to be prevented. They even claimed to regulate wages by the *rate of profit* derived from capital and from mechanical improvements. It is impossible to say how far these interferences with the liberty of others would have proceeded had they met no resistance, or not been defeated by their own inherent unreasonableness. In the course of the present year it will be seen that there was a succession of "*strikes*" among the most numerous and useful classes of workpeople both in London and the country. Consumers of products of all kinds, and of all ranks and degrees, appeared in danger of being reduced to their natural resources. The gasmen in London would not afford light; the tailors, shoemakers, builders, and shipwrights refused their aid; and the weavers and spinners of Yorkshire, Lancashire, and Glasgow, in quick succession, became refractory. But the different crafts were all reduced to submission, either by the superior tact or greater means of their employers. Masters were determined to be masters, and having, in some instances, a show of reason on their side, their efforts at resistance were seconded by the public press, the magistrates, and the government. At Dorchester assizes advantage was taken of some statutes, little known or understood, to convict, and sentence to transportation, for belonging to illegal societies, and administering illegal oaths, six agricultural labourers. This conviction, which was unexpected, and thought to be severe, if not unjust, produced strenuous efforts to obtain a remission of punishment.

Jan. 1. During the last three months the storms have been almost perpetual, and the loss of shipping and human life unexampled. At Boulogne, 300 children have lost their fathers since the commencement of the herring season.

2. Died, aged 49, the Hon. G. Lamb, brother of Lord Melbourne, and author of an elegant translation of Catullus. In



1819, Mr. Lamb was put forward by the whigs, to contest the representation of Westminster, against the radicals, who had started Mr. Hobhouse. The contest lasted fifteen days, and terminated in favour of the whig candidate.

12. Death of Lord GRENVILLE, at Dropmore, in the 74th year of his age. He was third son of William Grenville, prime minister from 1763 to 1765. Mr. Grenville was private secretary to his brother, earl Temple, lord-lieutenant of Ireland in 1782; succeeded Mr. Burke as paymaster of the army in 1783; became speaker of the House of Commons in 1789; received a patent of peerage in 1790; and, thenceforward, became the representative, both in style and sentiment, of his relative, premier Pitt, in the upper house. In the following year he exchanged the seals of the home for the foreign department; the latter he retained till the resignation of Mr. Pitt in 1801. He was a statesman of considerable natural abilities, possessed of a sound judgment, correct memory, and an eloquence chaste, masculine, and commanding. He had studied the principles of political economy, the importance of which he appreciated; was versed in modern languages, international law, and the detail of European politics; could endure fatigue, and, like Mr. Pitt, had hardly any pursuit apart from his official duties. Business was not merely his ambition but amusement. Lord Grenville shared with Mr. Pitt in the intimations held out to the Catholics to facilitate the Irish union, and was more consistent and firm than his colleague in his efforts to redeem their joint engagements. During the thirteen months' administration of "All the Talents," in 1806-7, he rendered himself very unpopular by holding, with the office of first lord of the treasury, the profitable sinecure of auditor of the exchequer, which had been conferred upon him in 1795, and which he held till his death. His haughty diplomacy in 1793 hastened and exasperated the commencement of hostilities, in the pertinacious countenance of which he was foremost among the war-party. He supported the renewal of the war for the deposition of Napoleon in 1815; from which period he seldom took part in parliamentary discussion, except on the catholic question, when he steadily seconded the efforts of lords Grey, Lansdowne, and Holland, for emancipation. His lordship furnished some valuable annotations to an edition of Homer, privately printed, and was the author of several pamphlets; in one of which, published shortly before his death, he admitted the fallacious principle on which Mr. Pitt's sinking fund had been established.

15. A change of ministry took place in Spain, and M. Zea Bermudez was replaced as prime minister by Martinez de la Rosa; a literary character, and more decided liberal. This change was made by the queen-regent at the earnest request of the captains-general of Catalonia and Old Castile, Llander and Quesada.

20. At an interview between the deputation of the Nottingham meeting of Dissenters and earl Grey, his lordship declared the disposition of himself and colleagues to relieve the dissenters from the disabilities connected with marriage, burial, and registration; but that he would give his strenuous opposition to every attempt to remove the establishment, considering it the duty of every government to maintain an establishment of religion.

25. Lord Althorp declined to receive the Westminster deputation for the repeal of the assessed taxes, having already received deputations on the subject from every part of the metropolis; and he said ministers had already determined on their course in regard to these taxes.

29. Duke of Wellington unanimously elected chancellor of the university of Oxford, in the room of the late Lord Grenville. The ceremony of installation took place at Apsley House.

31. Baron Bayley retired from the bench at an advanced age. He had successively sat in the courts of common pleas, king's bench, and the exchequer. Sir W. Horne was first appointed to the vacancy, and resigned the office of attorney-general to fill it; but, changing his mind, Mr. John Williams succeeded Sir J. Bayley; sir John Campbell became attorney-general, and Mr. Pepys solicitor-general.

Incendiary fires in Forfarshire; supposed to be the first known in Scotland.

A law at Frankfort, which limited the marriages of Jews in that city to thirteen in the year, repealed.

FOREIGN TREATIES.—In this month a treaty was concluded between Austria, Russia, and Prussia, by which these powers mutually agreed to deliver up, on the demand of the aggrieved state, all persons accused of rebellion or treason, or of being engaged in any plot against the throne or the government. These stipulations were not to have a retrospective operation. (*Ann. Reg.* lxxvi. 456.) A convention, concluded about the same period between Belgium and France, forms a contrast to the alliance of the despots. By this agreement it is stipulated that fugitives for crimes and offences, *not political*, shall be reciprocally delivered up by each country.

Feb. 1. Captain Wathen, of the 15th Hussars, charged, at the instance of his

Lieut-Colonel, Lord Brudenell, with insubordination and unofficer-like conduct, after a trial at Cork, which lasted for 18 days, was honourably acquitted. His Majesty approved the finding of the court-martial, and directed the removal of Lord Brudenell.

2. General Romarino, at the head of 400 Italians and Poles, made an irruption into Savoy for the purpose of effecting a revolution; finding no support, they fell back on Geneva, where they made an unsuccessful attempt to excite insurrection, and were finally disarmed, and ordered to quit Switzerland.

4. Second session of the REFORMED PARLIAMENT opened by the king in person. His majesty congratulated them on the manner in which the bill for the abolition of slavery had been received in the Colonies; called their attention to the reports of the municipal corporations, ecclesiastical, and poor law commissions; and expressed his satisfaction at the good understanding which prevailed between the governments of Britain and France; mentioned the recognition of the young queen of Spain; and, in allusion to Turkey, declared that it would be his object to maintain the independence of that empire. He lamented the distress which prevailed among the occupiers of land; recommended the adjustment of tithes in Ireland; and expressed his determination to maintain inviolate the legislative union. The address in the lords was moved by the Duke of Sutherland, and seconded by Lord Howard of Effingham; in the commons by Mr. Shaw Lefevre and Mr. Morrison. They were agreed to in both houses without alteration.

5. Lord Althorp and Mr. Shiel ordered into the custody of the sergeant-at-arms. A report had been circulated, that some of the Irish members had privately declared themselves in favour of the Coercion Bill of last session, though they had voted against it. To the question,—“Who is the traitor?” an answer of Lord Althorp’s implied that Mr. Shiel was one of them. An inquiry by a parliamentary committee showed that his lordship had been misinformed.

13. A strong feeling prevailed in the legislative assembly of Lower Canada against the governor, lord Aylmer, and the secretary for the colonies, Mr. Stanley, on account of their refusal to re-model the legislative council. Articles of impeachment were carried against lord Aylmer. The language of Mr. Stanley was described as “inconsiderate and insulting.”

14. The chancellor of the exchequer made his financial statement, and informed the house that the surplus revenue was 1,500,000*l.*, which, with a reduction of

500,000*l.* on the estimates, and 600,000*l.*, which he expected from an increase in the tea duty, in consequence of the opening of the China trade, would leave a surplus of 2,600,000*l.* This surplus would enable him to remit the house duty, and pay the 800,000*l.* interest on the grant of 20 millions to the West India proprietors, leaving the remainder for future consideration.

The Turkish government has determined on the establishment of a post for the regular conveyance of letters throughout the empire, and as a means of revenue.

Lord TEIGNMOUTH died at the advanced age of 83. His lordship was formerly governor-general of India, and president of the British and Foreign Bible Society, from the period of its institution. As an author, his principal work is a “Life of Sir William Jones,” with whom he was intimately acquainted.

15. Business suspended at Lyons, in consequence of a general strike of the workmen for higher wages.

Many of the public-houses having become mere gin-shops, the home office has issued a paper, directing one of the magistrates at each of the metropolitan police-offices to examine them personally, in order to ascertain whether they have the necessary convenience for a working man to cook his dinner.

17. Died at Bath, aged 68, JOHN THELWALL, the public lecturer, and, during the excitement of the French revolution, popular agitator. He was born in London; was first a student at the Royal Academy, next an attorney’s clerk, afterwards a student of medicine, then some other occupation; but his favourite pursuit was the political debating societies. He was the last survivor of the twelve who were sought to be victimized under a charge of constructive treason, in the state trials of 1794, (see Oct. 29.) Having escaped this danger, Mr. Thelwall tried farming, and at last settled down into a teacher of elocution, unmixed with politics. In this engagement he was successful, and after an itinerant course in the country, fixed his abode in London; taking pupils afflicted with impediments of speech, in the treatment of which he became celebrated. He was himself a striking instance of the success of his own powers in overcoming the imperfections of nature by art. His voice was originally feeble and husky, yet by perseverance he acquired an extraordinary distinctness of articulation, and even in the open air could make himself heard at a great distance.

26. Mr. Richardson, steward to Mr. Perkins, of Bletchingly, was murdered on Epsom Downs. A reward of 300*l.* was



offered for the apprehension of the murderer.

*March 1.* Corporation inquiry in the city of London closed. The city companies remain to be investigated by the commissioners, of which the only announced recusant is the Merchant Tailors.

After two nights' debate, the motion of Mr. Hume for substituting, instead of the present graduated scale of duties, a fixed and moderate duty on import, and a bounty on the export, with the ultimate view of establishing a free trade in corn, was rejected by 312 to 155. The president of the Board of Trade supported the motion; lord Althorp was theoretically in its favour, but did not think any urgent necessity existed for a change in the present system.

8. A general "strike" for higher wages took place among the persons employed by the London gas companies. Some inconvenience for a few nights was felt in consequence, but the masters having been apprised of the strike beforehand, in a short time the places of the men engaged in the combination were filled up by workmen from the country. They required that their wages should be advanced from 28s. a week to 35s., with an allowance besides of two pots of porter each per day.

11. A rencontre took place between some Jersey fishing-boats, which had in the night trespassed within the restricted limits of eight miles off the French coast, and a French armed cutter. One boat was taken, and the master of another shot. The coroner's inquest, held at Jersey, returned a verdict of "Wilful murder" against those who shot him.

13. Returns were published, from which it appears that the number of floggings in the army had, in the years 1830-31-32-33, been respectively 665, 646, 483, and 370. In the navy the number of corporal punishments were, in 1830, 2,022; 1831, 1,727; 1832, 1,762; 1833, 1,502.

Mr. C. Rippon's motion for the ejection of the bishops from the house of lords was lost, in the commons, by a majority of 125 to 58. It excited no discussion, ministers, without expressing their sentiments, simply voting against it.

14. A return published of the net expenses of the Penitentiary, Millbank, for the last year, from which it appeared that the number of prisoners was 566, and the expense of maintenance little short of 307, a head.

Major Fancourt's motion for the abolition of military flogging was rejected by a majority of 227 to 94.

15. A numerous meeting of scientific and literary gentlemen and others was held at the rooms of the Horticultural

Society, for the purpose of forming a Statistical Society, for the collection and classification of facts relating to the present condition and prospects of mankind, and especially of the British empire. Lord Lansdowne in the chair; the resolutions were supported by Spring Rice, M.P., James Abercrombie, M.P., Professor Jones, and Messrs. Babbage, Hallam, and Drinkwater.

A branch of the Bank of England is about to be opened at Plymouth. This will be the fourteenth establishment in connection with the Bank.

17. At Dorchester assizes, six agricultural labourers convicted of a felony, in being members of an illegal society, and administering illegal oaths. It appeared that the system of many of the trades' unions had been adopted by these persons. The oaths were administered with a good deal of mummary, the persons taking them being blindfolded, and then shown the picture of a skeleton, death's head, &c. The prisoners were sentenced to seven years' transportation. Large meetings were held in London, Birmingham, and other parts of the country, to petition the crown in their favour. The subject was noticed in parliament, April 18, when Lord Howick denied that the convicts were ignorant men, since two of them were methodist preachers; and the documents found upon them showed that government had been enabled to deal with the ringleaders of a body, that, if not checked in its career, would have proceeded to a mischievous extent.

18. 3,000 workmen in the woollen manufacture struck at Leeds, in consequence of the determination of their employers only to employ those who would relinquish the trades' union.

21. A royal proclamation issued, by which an alteration is made in the distribution of naval prize-money; the most important parts of which are, that the flag officers are to have 1-16th, the captains and commanders 1-6th of the remainder, and the rest to be distributed among the subalterns and men, according to a fixed scale.

26. Lord Chancellor introduced a bill for the establishment of a central criminal court in the metropolis (See *Aug. 15*).

The widow of Burns, the poet, died of paralysis at her house in Dumfries. She was in the 72d year of her age, and had survived her husband 38 years.

27. The chamber of deputies, by a vote of 176 to 168, annulled a treaty concluded in 1831 by the Duke de Broglie and General Sebastiani, and refused to grant about 1,000,000*l.* which the ministry were pledged to pay to the United States

as an indemnity for the injuries inflicted during the last war, by the French, upon American ships and commerce. In consequence Broglio and Sebastiani resigned their places, and the ministry underwent almost a complete reconstruction; but Marshal Soult remained at the head.

29. The editor of the Tribune newspaper condemned to a fine of 24,000 francs (960*l.*), and five years' imprisonment, for a libel on the subject of political associations, and for encouraging the trade unions of Lyons. The Tribune had been seized by the Government 95 times.

During this month the United States were much agitated by the declared determination of President Jackson to suppress the United States bank, and by the consequent withdrawal of the government deposits from the bank. The failure of 96 banks in the States about this time was attributed to this determination, in which the President was zealously opposed by the senate, and warmly supported by the house of representatives.

*April 4.* Sir Richard G. Keats, governor of Greenwich Hospital, died in his 84th year, and was succeeded by Sir Thomas Hardy. He was shipmate of the king at the commencement of his naval career; had charge of his instruction, and was with him in the engagement between Rodney and Langara, in 1780.

9. RIOTS IN FRANCE.—Serious riots broke out at Lyons, arising from the attempts of trades' unionists to interfere with the trial of some of their associates. Fighting between the work-people and the troops continued for several days, accompanied with a dreadful loss of life. The troops finally prevailed, and a telegraphic despatch of the 12th announced that "Lyons is free, and the suburbs are in possession of the troops." On the following day (the 13th) an insurrection broke out at Paris, which was speedily suppressed by the troops and the national guards. The insurrection was chiefly the work of republicans. The deputies, to the number of 288, presented a congratulatory address to the king on the occasion. The number killed was 51, of whom 12 belonged to the army. The number of persons killed at Lyons, during six days' fighting, was estimated at 5,000, of whom 1,700 were troops. The public buildings, and many hotels and dwelling-houses, were ruined or seriously injured in the struggle, which was the more protracted in consequence of General Aymar's unwillingness to expose his men in the narrow streets of the city.

10. The York column completed, and a statue of the Duke, by Westmacott, placed on the summit. Mr. B. Wyatt was the architect. Independent of the bronze

statue it cost 15,760*l.*, raised by subscription. The total height is 137 feet.

10. RAJAH OF COORG.—The peace of India had been disturbed by hostilities with the rajah of Coorg, an independent prince with whom we were in alliance. After a skirmishing but sharp warfare of upwards of a week, between the British forces under colonel Lindsay, and those of the rajah, the latter were defeated on all points, and the prince himself surrendered unconditionally. He is to be deposed, and his dominions annexed to the company's territories. The following is the total loss of the British in killed and wounded:—Europeans, 14 commissioned officers; 139 non-commissioned, rank, and file. Natives—2 commissioned officers; 144 non-commissioned, rank and file, and dressers. Total, Europeans and natives—16 commissioned officers, 283 non-commissioned, rank and file, and dressers.

15. A serious riot at Oldham in consequence of the apprehension of two men belonging to the trades' union of that place. One factory was nearly destroyed, and one person killed. Eight of the rioters were afterwards convicted and sentenced to terms of imprisonment varying from 6 to 18 months.

17. Lord Althorp introduced the ministerial propositions for the amendment of the poor laws.—(See *Aug. 15.*)

21. A meeting of trades unionists, held in Copenhagen-fields, for appointing a deputation to wait on the home-secretary and present a petition for the remission of the sentence on the Dorchester convicts. The deputation proceeded to the home-office, accompanied with a vast procession through the streets, and was received by Mr. Phillips, who stated that lord Melbourne declined receiving the petition under such circumstances of intimidation, but if it were presented in a proper manner he would lay it before the king. The procession next proceeded to Kennington common and quietly dispersed. The petition was afterwards presented. The numbers assembled were estimated at 25,000, of whom—tailors, 5000; carpenters, 3194; bricklayers, 1845; plumbers, 930; bricklayers' labourers, 2500.

21. The chancellor of the exchequer moved resolutions for the abolition of church rates, and substituting in their place a grant out of the land tax amounting to 250,000*l.* a year. The resolutions were agreed to by a majority of 256 to 140. The bill, founded upon them, was afterwards dropped, from the mutual dissatisfaction of dissenters and churchmen.

22. QUADRUPLE TREATY.—A treaty of this date, concluded in London, by Britain, France, Spain, and Portugal, having for



its object the pacification of the two peninsular kingdoms. 1. Spain and Portugal mutually engage to assist each other in the expulsion from their respective territories of Don Carlos and Don Miguel. 2. Britain engages to co-operate by employing a *naval force*. 3. France engages to do all that the contracting parties in common accord shall determine upon. Some of the chief objects of this alliance it will be seen (*May 9*) were soon after accomplished.

Mr. O'Connell brought forward his motion, tending to the repeal of the union. He spoke for six hours. Mr. Spring Rice spoke for six hours next night in reply, and the discussion lasted for six nights. On a division, the numbers for repeal were 38, and against it 523. Mr. Kennedy was the only English member who voted in the minority. An address to the throne was afterwards agreed to, which was unanimously adopted by the lords, and presented to his majesty by deputations from both houses.

25. A royal mandate of this date abolishes the exclusive privilege of serjeants-at-law to plead in the court of common-pleas, and throws open the court to the entire bar.

28. A general "strike" of the journey-men tailors in London, by which 13,000 men are thrown out of employment. The tailors in several other towns struck in imitation of those of the metropolis. At a meeting of the master-tailors in London on the 29th, it was decided by a very large majority, that only those journeymen should be re-employed who would sign a declaration that they had ceased to be connected with any trade's union. After holding out several weeks, the men returned to their work on the terms of the masters.

*May 7.* Don Pedro issues a decree equalizing the amount of duties on imported goods, and thus annuls the exclusive privilege enjoyed by England in the trade with Portugal. The difference in our favour was, in some instances, 15 per cent.; but we had ourselves set the example of removing invidious distinctions between nations. In 1831 the duties on foreign wines were equalised, and the wines of France admitted at the same rate as those from our old ally, Portugal.

9. The chancellor of the exchequer moved resolutions for the reduction of the Four per Cent. Annuities. The amount of that stock was 11,000,000*l.* and the saving to the public would be about 53,000*l.* a-year.

The poor law bill was read a second time in the commons, by a majority of 319 to 20.

• A decisive battle gained by the troops of

Don Pedro, on the heights of Thomar, over those of Don Miguel. Two days after they entered Santarem, which had been evacuated by Don Miguel. Don Miguel and Don Carlos finally embarked in British vessels, the former for Italy and the latter for England. A convention was entered into with Don Miguel, by which he is to receive from Portugal an income of 12,000*l.* a-year, and enjoy the rank of prince of the blood, and in return engages to give up the crown jewels, never to return to any part of the peninsula, or any way concur in disturbing its tranquillity. A protest appeared in the course of the year, in Don Miguel's name, against some parts of the treaty, of which the cortes of Portugal availed themselves to annul the treaty altogether, and to discontinue the pension of the prince. He was in consequence reduced to great poverty, and he ultimately became a pensioner of the Pope.

10. Birmingham political union dissolves itself.

15. A motion of Mr. Tennyson, for shortening the duration of parliament, rejected by a majority of 235 to 185.

18. Mr. Jeffrey created a judge of session; Mr. Murray, member for Leith, succeeds him as lord advocate.

20. Died at Paris, aged 76, general the marquis de LAFAYETTE, a popular and distinguished name of modern history. His father was slain at Minden. At 16 he married the daughter of the duke d'Ayen, still younger than himself. Weary of the frivolities of the capital, he joined the Americans in their struggle for independence. He fought by the side of Washington, and decided the freedom of the new world by the alliance of France. When philosophy, which had been but a pastime for noble idlers, demanded sacrifices from them, Lafayette was the first to set an example, contributing powerfully in the states-general to the junction of the orders; and, by way of recompense, was appointed commander of the national guard. Apprehensive of anarchy, he denounced, in 1792, the Jacobin club to the national assembly. The majority, which at first supported the general, gradually fell away, and no resource was left to him, but either a dishonourable recantation, a death inglorious and unavailing, or the chances of a retreat into some neutral territory. He was made prisoner by the Austrians, who, during four years, kept him in close confinement. The treatment he received from the allies, showed that they were not disposed to tolerate even a moderate reformer; for Lafayette had tried to arrest the progress of the revolution under a constitutional monarchy. He visited the United States in 1824, and

was enthusiastically received by the citizens. After the events of 1830 he might have been head of the French republic, but contented himself with his old appointment of chief of the civic guard; a distinction which, in a few months, he abandoned in disgust. Prince Talleyrand said he had extinguished himself by his resignation and nothing remained "but the snuff." His character was precisely a contrast to that of this diplomatic trickster. The prominent trait of Lafayette was a noble disinterestedness. This was almost in extreme; for it left an opening to men less able and deserving, and both lessened his usefulness and reputation for ability. It has been said of him—(*Foreign Quarterly Review*)—that "he had the moderation of Washington without his wisdom; his simplicity but not his strength; his amiability disjoined from his activity and foresight. He was therefore always respected and always forgotten." The Parisians showed their respect to his memory by attending his funeral in immense numbers; 200,000 are supposed to have been present. His simple monumental designation—*Requiescat in pace*—in the private cemetery of Piepsa cannot be gainsaid by friends or detractors.

21. SMUGGLING.—An interesting French report has been published, of the extent to which smuggling is carried on between France and England. It is calculated that, in 1826, not less than about 45,000 cwt. of English manufactures were smuggled into France through the Netherlands by means of dogs. Dogs had been taken by the custom-house officers with burdens valued at 32% to 48% each. It appears that between 1820 and 1830, 40,278 of these smuggling dogs had been destroyed, and 4,833% had been paid as premiums for their destruction, but the trade is nevertheless on the increase. The amount of duties evaded by the smuggling of French goods to England in 1831 was calculated at 800,000%. This is exclusive of tobacco, of which great quantities are imported without paying duty.

22. A motion for the repeal of the stamp duty on newspapers is rejected in the commons by a majority of 90 to 58. A motion for the appointment of authentic reporters had the same fate.

24. Session of the French chambers closed.

27. MINISTERIAL RESIGNATIONS.—Mr. Ward made his motion relative to the Irish church. In an able speech he described the unsettled state of Ireland; said that since 1819 it had been necessary to maintain an army there of 22,000 men, which cost a million per annum, exclusive of a police force that cost 300,000% more, both of which he ascribed chiefly to the main-

tenance of a religious establishment not in unison with popular opinion. He concluded by moving, "That the protestant episcopal establishment in Ireland exceeds the spiritual wants of the protestant population; and that it being the right of the state to regulate the distribution of church property in such manner as parliament may determine, it is the opinion of this house, that the temporal possessions of the church of Ireland, as now established by law, ought to be reduced." Mr. Grote seconded the motion. After the mover and seconder had concluded, lord Althorp announced that he had just received communications which induced him to move that the house should adjourn till June 2, which was agreed to. It appeared that there existed a difference of opinion in the cabinet as to the mode in which Mr. Ward's motion should be met, a majority being in its favour, while the rest could not assent to its principle. It was in the end determined to issue a commission, with ample instructions to inquire into the actual condition of the Irish church, both with regard to its ministers and members. But the dissentient minority of the cabinet could neither assent to a commission of inquiry, nor to Mr. Ward's motion; inferring, that if the commission reported, as was anticipated, that the temporal possessions of the church exceeded its spiritual wants, then there would be a surplus, that, agreeably to Mr. Ward's motion, would be at parliamentary disposal, to be applied either to lay or ecclesiastical purposes. To the appropriation of church property to other than ecclesiastical uses, Mr. Stanley, Sir James Graham, the earl of Ripon, and the duke of Richmond, could not assent, and resigned their places in the ministry. The following appointments took place in consequence:—colonial secretary, Mr. Spring Rice; first lord of the admiralty, lord Auckland; lord privy seal, earl of Carlisle; master of the mint, Mr. Abercrombie; post-master general, marquise Conyngham; president of the board of trade, Mr. Poulett Thompson; secretary of the treasury, Mr. Francis Baring; and Mr. Ellice, the secretary at war, was introduced into the cabinet. On resuming the adjourned debate, lord Althorp announced the ministerial changes, and the appointment of the church commission; but Mr. Ward, notwithstanding, pressed his motion to a division, which was negatived by 396 to 120.

27. By a decision of the general assembly of the church of Scotland, an important change has been effected in the exercise of church patronage in that country. Lord Moncrieff, a judge of session, moved that no person shall be appointed to a living



who is disapproved of by a majority of the heads of families in communion with the church, and the motion was carried by a majority of 184 to 138.

28. Being the anniversary of the king's birth-day, the Irish prelates, headed by the archbishop of Armagh, presented an address to his majesty, in which they strongly deprecated ecclesiastical innovations. The king did not satisfy himself with the common formal answer, but delivered an extempore address of considerable length, in which he warmly expressed his attachment to the church. He said (*Ann. Reg.* lxxvi. 44) that he had always been friendly to toleration in its utmost altitude, but opposed to licentiousness, and that he was fully sensible how much both the protestant church and his own family were indebted to the revolution of 1688. "The words," said he, "which you hear from me, are spoken from my mouth, but they proceed from my heart."

Don Pedro issued a decree abolishing all convents and monasteries in Portugal; and shortly after another decree abolishing the privileges of the Oporto wine company.

June 3. On the motion of Mr. Buckingham, in the commons, a select committee is appointed to inquire into the causes, extent, and remedies of drunkenness. On the motion of Mr. C. Grant, a committee appointed to inquire into the means of promoting communication with India by steam. In place of Mr. Roebuck's motion, for inquiring into the means of establishing national education, an amendment, moved by lord Morpeth, was substituted, for inquiring into the application of a grant of last session, for erecting school houses.

An inquest held on the bodies of Matilda Archer, aged 19, and Mary Ann Perry, aged 18; the jury returned a verdict of *felo de se*. It appeared that the two young women, on the previous night, had tied their wrists tightly together with a silk handkerchief, and thrown themselves into the Thames, where they were found drowned next morning.

FRENCH COMMERCE.—An ordinance appeared in the *Moniteur*, making considerable alterations in the commercial intercourse between England and France. The prohibition on the import and export of certain articles removed; the tonnage of English vessels admitted into French ports reduced; and cotton yarns, chain cables, and other articles, are to be admitted on payment of a fixed duty. This is the commencement of a more liberal system; and it appears, from the Reports of Messrs. Bowring and Villiers, that the French are becoming more alive to the advantages of

free-trade. Owing to restrictions and monopolies, the foreign commerce of France has made much less progress within the last half century, than either her agriculture or her manufactures. The value of her imports and exports together amounted, in 1787, to 25,000,000*l.* sterling; in 1830, they amounted to no more than 25,500,000*l.*, notwithstanding an increase in the population of the country from twenty-four to thirty-three millions. The small share she possesses of the immense export trade of England places in a strong light the oppressive operation of the anti-commercial regulations to which she has subjected herself. In 1830, while our exports to all Europe amounted to 34,275,387*l.*, those to France amounted only to 659,087*l.*, or about a fifty-second part of the whole. Among the European countries to which shipments of British goods were made, France ranked only the *ninth* in importance. In 1831, she ranked as an eighth, and received a thirty-eighth part of the exports from England to the whole of Europe.

4. The Antigua legislature dispensed with the apprenticeship clause in the Slavery Abolition Bill, and declared that the slaves in that colony should be entirely free from August 1st.

10. The installation of the duke of Wellington as chancellor of Oxford university takes place with much pomp, and a strong display of conservative feeling.

13. About this period the greater part of the Leeds trades' unionists, who had been long out of employment in consequence of a strike, returned to their work at the mills. About 45 mills and dressing-shops had been standing for many weeks.

17. The census of New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land taken in September, 1833, was published. In the former the number of males was 44,643, and of females, 16,151. The population of Sydney was 16,232.

18. Don Carlos landed at Portsmouth with his family and suite. Three weeks after he left England, and suddenly appeared among his adherents in Spain.

Mr. Robert Grant is appointed Governor of Bombay, and has been succeeded by Mr. C. Fergusson as judge-advocate.

24. The grand musical festival, given in Westminster Abbey, for the benefit of the various musical societies, commenced. Their majesties attended it in state for four days. The number of performers amounted to 625, and the proceeds amounted to 22,000*l.*, the clear profits to 9,000*l.*

Messrs. Raphael and Illidge elected sheriffs of London and Middlesex. The former is the first catholic who has held

the office since the expulsion of the Stuarts.

A sanguinary battle was fought at the fair of Ballyheagh, by the clans of Coleen and Lawlor. About 1,000 men, independent of women, were engaged in the bloody affray. Many were killed, and about 18 drowned in the river.

25. Admiral Napier arrived at Portsmouth in the Braganza frigate, and was welcomed with great enthusiasm by the inhabitants. His share of the prize-money for the capture of the Miguelite fleet, (valued at 120,000*l.*,) was stated to be 16,000*l.*

28. Strike of the shoemakers of Derby. Colocotroni and Colliopul were convicted of treason at Nauplia, and sentenced to death. The sentence was afterwards commuted to 20 years imprisonment.

30. The editor of the *Morning Post* committed to custody by the lords, for a libel on the lord chancellor, charging his lordship with making a false entry of a decision of the house. Two days after he was discharged on acknowledging his error, and payment of fees.

The government prosecutions for libel since the king's accession have been six. In these causes the defendants were;—William Cobbett, William Alcock Haley, Richard Carlile, John Ager, Patrick Grant, John Bell, Henry Hetherington, and Thomas Stevens.

July 1. Earl Grey proposed in the house of lords the renewal of the Irish Coercion Bill, with the exception of the court-martial clauses, which were omitted.

3. A warm altercation in the commons between Mr. Littleton and Mr. O'Connell, on the Irish Coercion Bill. It appeared that Mr. Littleton had confidentially communicated to Mr. O'Connell, that the clauses in the bill prohibitory of meetings were not demanded by the Irish government and would not be pressed; nevertheless the obnoxious clauses appeared in the bill, and Mr. O'Connell considered that a deception had been practised, and that the communication had secured advantages over him which would not have been possessed, and which dissolved the obligation of secrecy, under which the communication had been made. On the 7th, Lord Althorp stated that Mr Littleton had sufficient ground for the hope he had intimated to Mr. O'Connell, that the obnoxious clauses would be omitted; but feeling the unpleasant position in which he stood in having acted on that anticipation, Mr. Littleton had tendered his resignation; but had been prevailed upon to remain in office. A stormy debate then ensued on a motion of Mr. O'Connell

for copies of the correspondence between the lord lieutenant of Ireland and ministers, which was negatived by 159 to 54.

5. The queen embarked at Woolwich for the continent, to visit her relatives at Meinengen. Her majesty travels incognito, under the title of the countess of Lancaster.

9. RESIGNATION OF EARL GREY.—The resignation of Earl Grey had been preceded by that of lord Althorp, who found himself unable to carry the Irish Coercion Bill through the commons, with the clauses against public meetings, after it had become known that the lord lieutenant had advised the dispensing with these clauses, and that there was a difference of opinion in the cabinet on the necessity of their retention. Without the assistance of lord Althorp as ministerial leader in the commons, Earl Grey considered himself unable to carry on the government, and resigned. His lordship had passed his seventieth year; and, from declining health, the infirmities of age, and weariness of official life, had wished to retire at the close of last session, but had been prevailed upon by his colleagues to continue in office. The main objects with which his administration commenced had been effected:—Parliamentary reform; the great object of his public exertions, had been accomplished; peace had been maintained, without national dishonour; and taxes repealed to the amount of four and a half millions. The explanations of the seceding ministers were given on the 9th. Earl Grey was listened to with profound attention, and at one moment was so overpowered by his feelings, that he was compelled to sit down, which interval the duke of Wellington filled up by presenting some petitions. His lordship had held office, as premier, three years, seven months, and twenty-two days, which exceeded the term of his predecessor, the duke of Wellington, by nearly one year and a half. Since 1754, only four premiers have held office for a longer period, namely, the duke of Newcastle eight years, lord North twelve, Mr. Pitt upwards of seventeen, and lord Liverpool nearly fifteen years.

15. Marshal Soult quitted the French ministry, and was succeeded as president of the council and minister at war by marshal Gerard.

16. A riot took place at Madrid, in consequence of some misapprehensions relative to the cholera; the populace imagined the fountains had been poisoned, and about seventy persons were killed, chiefly monks. The number of persons who died of cholera in that capital from



this period to the 21st of August was calculated at 5,000.

17. Died M. A. Taylor, M. P. aged 77. He was an old friend of Mr. Fox, and distinguished for his persevering exposition of chancery abuses. Since the retirement of Mr. Coke, he had been the father of the commons, having been a member of that assembly for fifty years.

MELBOURNE CABINET.—The completion of the ministry was announced in the commons by lord Althorp. His lordship had consented to resume his office. The following is the list of the new cabinet:—

Viscount Melbourne, *First Lord of the Treasury.*

Viscount Althorp, *Chancellor of the Exchequer.*

Lord Brougham, *Lord High Chancellor.*  
Marquis of Lansdowne, *Lord President of the Council.*

Earl of Mulgrave, *Lord Privy Seal.*

Viscount Duncannon, *Home Secretary.*

Viscount Palmerston, *Foreign Secretary.*

Spring Rice, *Colonial Secretary.*

Lord Auckland, *First Lord of the Admiralty.*

Charles Grant, *President of India Board.*  
Marquis of Conyngham, *Postmaster General.*

Lord Holland, *Chancellor of the duchy of Lancaster.*

Lord John Russell, *Paymaster of the Forces.*

E. J. Littleton, *Secretary for Ireland.*

21. The lord chancellor expatiated at considerable length on the principles which should regulate the administration of relief to the poor, and concluded with moving in the lords, the second reading of the poor laws amendment bill. The motion was supported by the duke of Wellington, and other opposition peers, and agreed to by a majority of 76 to 13.

23. The circulation of paper money abolished by Don Pedro in Portugal, and a metallic currency established.

25. The amount of legacies, donations, &c., made to different charities in France, during the year 1833, was stated to be 160,000*l.*

Died at Highgate, aged 62, SAMUEL TAYLOR COLERIDGE, the celebrated poet and metaphysician. This respected literator had long suffered under acute illness, and for the last thirteen months, as he told a friend, had walked seventeen hours in his chamber each day. He was the son of the vicar of St. Mary Ottery in Devonshire; was educated at Christ's Hospital, and went to Cambridge on one of the exhibitions belonging to that foundation. Like other ingenuous minds, he was smitten

with the opening buds of the French revolution, and while under their influence projected, in conjunction with Southey and Lovell, who had married three sisters, the establishment of a community in America upon more elementary principles than those predominant in Europe. Mr. Coleridge possessed great conversational powers; and William Hazlitt, who heard him preach at the Unitarian chapel at Taunton, has left a graphic description of his impressive appearance and pulpit oratory. As traveller, public lecturer, and general writer for the press, Mr. Coleridge had opportunities for extensive observation on the diversities of human life and character; but the variety appears to have perplexed rather than simplified his intellectual deductions. His later writings partook of the vague obscurities of German idealism, in which the realities of life are lost amidst mystic and impracticable contemplations. The English Goethe, like his prototype, combining with religious feeling a poet's fancy and temperament, the uncongenial pursuit of a metaphysician's analysis appears to have wrought out few definite and tangible conclusions in the perplexities of moral and political philosophy.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer brought forward a second budget, and announced that the surplus for the year was 2,177,030*l.* and that it was his intention to take off the house tax and other taxes to the amount of a million and a half.

27. Earl Bathurst died, aged 72. He was colonial secretary for 16 years, and president of the council during the Wellington administration. His lordship was a feeble, embarrassed speaker, and of little ability. The order of the Garter he held was given to the Duke of Norfolk.

31. French chamber of deputies opened with a pacific speech from the King. The government had acquired strength by the late elections.

*Aug. 1.* A public dinner given at the Freemasons' Tavern, to celebrate the termination of West Indian slavery. The Earl of Mulgrave, the late governor of Jamaica, was in the chair, and the most active public supporters of emancipation were present, as were also several gentlemen of colour from the West Indies. The dissenters generally throughout the country celebrated the same event in their chapels. At Hull, the first stone of the Wilberforce testimonial was raised.

REMARKABLE AFFAIR.—Three persons, Edwards, Weedon, and Lacossayne, tried at the Middlesex sessions for attempting to obtain by force certain title-deeds, and a check for 800*l.* from Mr. Gee, a solicitor of Bishop-Stortford, on the 12th of last

May. The trial lasted thirteen hours, and the two former were found guilty of conspiring to imprison Mr. Gee, and the latter of a common assault: they were respectively sentenced to two years, one year, and six months' imprisonment. The case had excited great interest, owing to its novel circumstances. Mr. Gee was professionally employed by a person who stated herself to be a widow, of the name of Canning, to invest the sum of 2,000*l.* for her benefit. He invested 1,200*l.* of this sum, and placed the remaining 800*l.* in the hands of his banker. Mr. Gee, having been by specious pretences seduced to a house in York Street, Commercial Road, was there seized by three men, and forced through the back kitchen into a recess walled with strong boards, and plastered with mud and soil. He was there fastened by chains and cords to a board which served for a seat, and to two pieces of wood, so that he could scarcely move. The men then extorted from him an order for the title-deeds of the invested property of Mrs. Canning, and a check for the 800*l.* This was stated to be the price of his release, and was yielded by him in the fear of being murdered. One of the men, who was blind, and seemed the leader of the party, then went away with the order and the check, leaving the other men in charge of their prisoner. When Mr. Gee was left by himself, he contrived by extreme exertion to force up the chain across his breast, and to make his escape. Information having been given of these facts at the Lambeth-street Police-office, the three men were apprehended the next day. The blind man, Edwards, was a teacher of music, and had hired the house but a few days previously, and had the den constructed according to his directions, for the special purpose to which it was applied. He did not deny his part in the business, but justified it as a means of obtaining for Mrs. Canning that justice which had been quietly sought in vain. The transaction was elucidated by the fact, that Mrs. Canning had been married, under a false name, to Edwards, and that she had only a life interest in the property in question, which she was to retain while she remained a widow, and no longer.

Earl Radnor's bill for the admission of dissenters into the universities, thrown out of the lords by 102 to 85.

Leghorn opened as an entirely free port, by the cessation of the duty of one per cent. upon merchandize by sea.

5. Great inundations from heavy rains in the midland and northern counties, particularly in the vicinity of Birmingham and Manchester. Some lives were lost, and the destruction of property considerable.

At the Chester assizes, two men, named

Garside and Mosley, were indicted for the murder of Mr. Thomas Ashton, on the 3d of January, 1831. The murdered person was manager of a mill at the period when there was a dispute between the masters and *turn-outs* at Werneth. He was killed by a shot while passing through a lane on his way to the mill. The principal witness against the prisoners was the brother of Mosley, who was himself a party in the murder, but was admitted king's evidence against the others. It transpired on the trial that the prisoners had no personal ill-will to Mr. Ashton, but had undertaken the assassination in consideration of receiving 3*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* each, from the trades' union, to which Mr. Ashton had become obnoxious. The prisoners were found guilty, and sentenced to death; but the execution was delayed in consequence of a dispute between the sheriffs of the county and those of the city of Chester, each party contending that the duty devolved on the other of seeing the sentence carried into effect. They were finally executed at Horsemonger-lane, pursuant to an award of the court of King's Bench, made on the motion of the attorney-general, Nov. 6, who cited several cases to justify the interference of the court; among them that of the celebrated Sir Walter Raleigh. Subsequently an act was passed (1 Wm. 4. c. 1.) settling the duties of the sheriffs.

Admiral Sir Richard King, commander-in-chief in the Medway, died, aged 61, and was succeeded by Admiral Fleming. He was one of Nelson's captains at the battle of Trafalgar, and had the command on the East India station from 1816 to 1820.

8. General Sir John Doyle, died in his 78th year. He served in the four quarters of the globe, was present at twenty-three general engagements, and received public thanks on nine different occasions.

10. The Glasgow turn-out calico printers, after a nine months' struggle, have been compelled to yield to their employers. This strike has cost the employed 12,000*l.* to support the refractory.

11. The Irish Tithe Bill was rejected in the Lords by a majority of 189 to 122.

14. A great Protestant meeting, consisting chiefly of nobility and gentry, held at Dublin, and resolutions passed in support of the established church.

15. PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.—The king in person prorogued parliament. After adverting to the principal labours of the session, he intimated that the important subjects of jurisprudence and municipal corporations would be introduced next session. The legislative business of the year had fallen short of that transacted in 1833, partly from ministerial disagree-



ments and changes, and partly from the refusal of the lords to concur in measures sent up to them from the commons. Among the bills which passed the commons, and which were either rejected or so altered by the lords as to preclude the concurrence of the commons, were those relative to Jewish disabilities,—admission of dissenters into the universities—prevention of parliamentary corruption in Warwick—the Bribery Bill and the Coroners' Court Bill—which last was lost by the lords rejecting a clause declaring coroners' courts open courts. The two principal measures that became law were the Central Criminal Court Act and the Poor Law Amendment Act. The first of these measures was intended to improve the administration of the criminal law in the metropolis. It extends the jurisdiction of the Old Bailey Court over a population of about 1,700,000, not only in Middlesex, but in parts of Surrey, Kent, and Essex; leaving to the Middlesex sessions, at Clerkenwell, the trial of offences punishable with not more than seven years' transportation. The Old Bailey sessions to be held twelve times a-year at the least, and oftener if necessary, in the city of London or the suburbs. This measure effected a great improvement in the judicial administration of the metropolis; and the outlines of it are said to have been given to the lord chancellor by an eminent barrister.

The most important measure of the session was the *Poor Law Amendment Act*. It was founded on inquiries and suggestions made by itinerant commissioners, who had been appointed to investigate the abuses of the poor-law administration and suggest remedies. Their suggestions were adopted by large majorities of both houses of parliament, consisting of all political parties, and excited little popular opposition, though effecting a great change in the mode of treating the indigent classes. The chief reasons upon which the new legislation was founded were the burdensome amount of the poor-rates—the temptations to improvident habits they held out—the superior condition of the pauper to an independent labourer—mal-administration of the laws through the interference of magistrates, and equality of voting—the payment of wages out of the rates—the granting of out-door allowances to able-bodied labourers—encouragement afforded to incontinence, by the allowances granted to mothers for the maintenance of illegitimate children—litigation, in consequence of the settlement-laws, &c. For the remedy of these evils, the relief of the poor was placed under the control of three commissioners appointed by the crown, who are authorised to make rules for the manage-

ment of the poor, the government of work-houses, the conduct of guardians, vestries, and officers, the keeping of accounts, and making of contracts. They are also empowered to appoint assistant commissioners with similar powers, to form unions of parishes, and, in short, to direct and control every matter connected with the relief of the poor in England and Wales.

A third act for amending the statute of 1830 (see p. 891), allowing the retail of beer by an *excise licence*, effected important changes in the original measure. Complaints had been made of the ill-management of the beer-houses, and the new act prohibits persons selling beer to be drunk on the premises, unless expressly licensed to do so. Persons desiring to be so licensed must annually produce to, and deposit with the commissioners of excise, a certificate of good character from six inhabitants of the parish, rated at six pounds a-year each; and that they are so rated must be attested by the certificate of the overseer. Alterations were also made in the licence duties.

The session began with a formidable array of business. At the close of the preceding session there were standing in the order-book 134 notices of motions; to this number 61 more notices were added on the first day of the session; and it is supposed 200 more notices were given in the course of the session: making a total of about 400 projects of reform and change to be discussed during the six months' sitting of parliament. It is needless to say that many of these unborn legislative schemes never saw the light. Among them were projects for the occasional sitting of parliament in Dublin—that the commons should rise before dinner—for a tax on Irish absentees—for the repeal of the Royal Marriage act—for securing open spaces in towns for public walks—for the abolition of the hereditary peerage—for taking elections by ballot—for the abolition of subscription to the 39 Articles in the universities—for giving publicity to lists of divisions in the house—for amending the laws against drunkenness, &c. Among measures, salutary or popular, perfected in this second session of the reformed parliament, the following may be enumerated:—

Repeal of the house-tax, amounting to 1,200,000*l*.

Abolition of the duty on almanacs.

Reduction of the interest of the 4 per Cents. of 1826, by which a saving of 50,000*l*. per annum was effected.

A second grant of 20,000*l*. for building schools in England.

A grant, for the first time, for building schools, of 10,000*l*. for Scotland.

Abolition of penalties on marriages celebrated in Scotland by catholic priests.

Reform of the exchequer, by which 30,000*l.* a-year will be saved.

Abolition of sinecure offices in the house of commons, and limitation of salaries.

Facilities granted for the admission and circulation through the post-office of foreign newspapers.

Colonization of South Australia on an improved principle.

The royal assent was given to 143 private bills, of which the following is a classification:—agriculture, 18; companies, 7; improvements of towns and districts, 54; internal communications, 34; navigation, 9; private regulation, 21.

In reckoning up the parliamentary work of the year, that done by select committees of the two houses ought not to be forgotten. Among the committees appointed by the house of commons, and most of which made reports, while all diligently investigated to a greater or less extent the subjects with the examination of which they were charged, may be mentioned those on sinecure offices; on the law of libel; on the grievances complained of by certain of the inhabitants of Lower Canada; on the cases of Mr. Harvey, Mr. Buckingham, the Baron de Bode, and Mr. Gurney; on steam-navigation to India; on medical education; on the tea duties; and on the general state of the education of the poor in England and Wales.

Aug. 18. The working builders in London, to the number of 10,000, struck, in consequence of a declaration of the masters requiring them to renounce trades' unions.

A general strike among the artisans employed by government. All of them were offered employment if they would sign a declaration that they did not belong to any union. Only a very small number signed, and the rest relinquished their work.

22. Mr. Frankland Lewis, Mr. Shaw Lefevre, and Mr. Nicholls, appointed Poor Law Commissioners under the new act. Mr. Chadwick appointed secretary to the board.

27. The *Cameleon* revenue cutter run down by the *Castor* frigate, in the daytime, off Dover; and out of 19 only five of the crew were saved. The officer of the watch on board the frigate was afterwards dismissed the service in pursuance of the sentence of a court-martial.

30. Don Carlos and his heirs excluded from the throne of Spain by a decision of the Cortes.

There is this year a great diminution of Irish labourers employed in getting in the

harvest. It augurs well for the state of home labour in Ireland, while it restores to the English labourer an advantage of which he has for many years past been deprived.

The old ship, the *Discovery*, in which Captain Cook sailed round the world, has been removed from Woolwich, and is now moored off Deptford as a receiving-ship for convicts.

At the great annual sheep-fair held at Britford, near Salisbury, upwards of 80,000 sheep and lambs were sold; lambs fetching 30*s.*, ewes, 34*s.*, and wethers 35*s.* each.

Sept. 2. Mr. Telford, the celebrated civil engineer, died at his house, Abingdon-street, aged 77, and eight days afterwards his remains were deposited in Westminster Abbey. His great works are the Caledonian Canal, the Conway-bridge, the Holyhead Road, and the Menai-bridge. He was a native of the parish of Westerkirk, Dumfriesshire. By his will he left Mr. Southey, the poet, 500 guineas, which sum by a codicil he doubled.

Admiral Sir Benjamin Hallowell Carew died at Beddington Park, aged 74. He was a native of Canada, and took the name of Carew on succeeding to a large fortune. He fought under Rodney in 1782; under Nelson at the sieges of Bastia and Calvi, and commanded the *Swiftsure* at the battle of the Nile; and at the time of his death was one of the three surviving captains who commanded ships of the line on that memorable day.

3. A struggle at Manchester against a halfpenny church-rate terminated in the refusal of the rate, by a majority of 7019 to 5897.

Trial of the great will cause at Lancaster before Baron Gurney, which lasted 10 days, terminated in a verdict for the defendant, Mr. Wright, whose claim to the property, amounting to 7000*l.* a-year, bequeathed by the late Mr. Marsden, was disputed by admiral Tatham, the heir-at-law, on the ground of the mental imbecility of the testator.

8. The British Association held its fourth annual meeting at Edinburgh.

9. A respectable man named Steinberg, a native of Germany, residing in Southampton-street, Pentonville, destroyed in the course of the night the woman with whom he cohabited, and their four children, and then committed suicide. Embarrassed circumstances were the supposed cause. The unhappy man was buried two nights afterwards, at 11 o'clock at night, in the poor-ground of Clerkenwell parish, amidst the execrations of a vast crowd.

14. Death of Sir JOHN LEACH, master of the rolls, aged 74. His father was a tradesman of Bedford, at the grammar-



school of which town sir John was educated. He was first in the office of an architect, and did not enter the Middle Temple till his twenty-fifth year. His success was rapid at the bar. By his zealous defence in the house of commons of the duke of York, when implicated in the practices of Mrs. Clarke, he became a particular favourite with the royal family. He was at the head of the Milan commission appointed to collect evidence of the irregularities of the princess of Wales, in Italy. In 1817 he became vice-chancellor, and in 1827 master of the rolls. He possessed considerable capabilities as a judge; could seize the strong points of a case, and was able to deliver his opinion immediately, in a manner clear, precise, and conclusive. He has been accused of suppleness towards the rich and powerful, and had the foible of seeking to vie, in their frivolities, with people of fashion.

15. DINNER TO EARL GREY.—A grand entertainment was given at Edinburgh to this veteran statesman in testimony of respect for his consistency and public conduct while premier. Probably no minister in the zenith of his power ever before received so gratifying a tribute of national respect as was paid on this occasion to one who had not only retired from office, but retired from it for ever. The popular enthusiasm both in the capital and other parts of Scotland was extreme, which the noble earl sensibly felt and gratefully acknowledged as among the proudest circumstances of his life. The dinner took place in a large pavilion erected for the occasion in the area of the High School, and was provided for upwards of 1500 persons, besides more than 600 who were admitted after the removal of the cloth. The principal speakers were earl Grey, the lord chancellor, and the earl of Durham. Earl Grey and the lord chancellor in their speeches considered that the reform in parliament afforded the means by which all useful improvements may be obtained without violence. Both advocated a deliberate and careful, but steady course of amelioration and reform, and both derided the idea of a reaction in favour of Tory principles of government. The Earl of Durham avowed his opinions in favour of the ballot and household suffrage, and declared that he should regret every hour which left ancient and recognised abuses unreformed.

24. DEATH OF DON PEDRO.—The prince had resigned the regency on the 18th, owing to illness, and expired at the palace of Queluz, near Lisbon, in the 37th year of his age. He was elected emperor of Brazil in 1821, abdicated in 1831, and had only survived four months

the expulsion of his brother Miguel from the throne of Portugal. Don Pedro was a man of energy, and of considerable but uncultivated talents; and, owing to his violent temper, that often precipitated him into arbitrary acts, was unfit for steady government. On the resignation of the regency by her father, Donna Maria, then in her sixteenth year, was declared by the Cortes to be of age, and fully competent to take upon herself the administration of public affairs. A change of ministry followed, and the queen appointed the duke of Palmella prime minister, with Vasconcellas, Carvalho, Terceira, Villa Real, and Agostinho Freire, for a cabinet.

25. SLAVE EMANCIPATION.—Subsequently to August 1st a strong anxiety was felt in this country for intelligence as to the manner in which the boon of freedom had been received by the slaves in the different colonies. Information up to the day of emancipation has now been received from most of the West India colonies, and is highly satisfactory. There had been thanksgivings and jubilees in most of the islands at the termination of personal servitude. In Jamaica there had been misapprehension as to the apprentice state, but the judicious proclamation of the Marquis of Sligo, the governor, speedily removed it. In Antigua, where the slaves had been set entirely free, most of the negroes had begun to work at the rate of 1s. a-day for able labourers, and 9d. a-day for the second class of labourers. Everywhere the colonial legislatures exhibited a willingness to give full effect to the enactment of the mother-country.

Oct. 1. The failure of Mr. Raikes, governor of the bank of England, caused some alarm in the city, lest he might have used his influence as governor to involve the bank in the speculations of the firm, to which he belonged, but the apprehension proved groundless. Another firm Bentley, Dear, and Co., doing business to the amount of 400,000*l.* yearly, were rendered bankrupt by the forgeries and subsequent disappearance of Bentley, the principal partner.

11. Lord Napier, chief superintendent of the British merchants at Canton, died suddenly at Macao. His lordship had become embroiled with the authorities by a breach of Chinese etiquette, which led to a stoppage of the tea-trade. Napier brought up two ships of war to overawe the arrogant but timid natives; they were fired upon by the forts, and, the fire being returned by the ships, some lives were lost. The interdict on the trade was removed a few days after and commercial intercourse resumed.

15. A petition presented to Mr. Secretary Rice signed by upwards of 32,000 persons praying for the release of Mr. Webb from the remainder of his confinement in York Castle. Webb had been convicted of manslaughter, caused by administering Morison's pills.

16. HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT BURNED.—About six o'clock in the evening a fire broke out in some buildings near the lower end of the house of lords, which continued to rage throughout the night, and was not completely extinguished for several days. The entire mass of buildings in that quarter was, at first, thought to be endangered, and great anxiety was felt for the safety of Westminster-Hall and even the Abbey, but none of these buildings sustained material damage. The libraries and state papers in the lords and commons and speaker's residence were preserved, but the Painted Chamber and two houses of parliament were entirely destroyed, with the exception, in the lords, of the library and adjoining rooms; and, in the commons, of four committee-rooms. The speaker's house was much damaged, and that of the chief-clerk destroyed. Lords Melbourne, Althorp, Hill, and Munster, sir J. C. Hobhouse, and Mr. Hume, M.P., who were on the spot, zealously assisted in arresting the progress of the flames. The privy council instituted an inquiry into the cause of the fire, and after hearing much evidence, and protracting their sittings for several days, reported to the king that the fire was caused by negligence, in burning the exchequer tallies in a building adjoining the house of lords. A singular instance of mental delusion occurred during the investigation. A Mr. Cooper swore positively to his having heard of the fire within two or three hours after it broke out (and when it was raging most fiercely) at Dudley, 120 miles from London. But no other person confirmed the extraordinary circumstance, though Mr. Cooper seemed to have no doubt whatever of the fact. The conflagration naturally caused great momentary excitement, and by it the historical and personal associations connected with an ancient place of legislative enactment, eloquence, and discussion, were destroyed.

21. The earl of Derby died at Knowsley Park, in his 82d year. He was the founder of the Derby Stakes, and had been lord lieutenant of Lancashire for 60 years.

23. A decree of Otho king of Greece was issued, by which Athens is declared the capital of the kingdom and the seat of government.

Parliament further prorogued by the lord chancellor in the library of the late house of lords. The room was temporarily fitted

up for the occasion, with a mimic representation of the throne, woollack, benches, and cross-benches, and the official persons present were wigged and robed in the usual manner.

29. A public dinner given to the earl of Durham at Glasgow. During the previous part of the day he was presented with the freedom of the city, and received a great number of addresses from various bodies. The number in the green or public park of Glasgow was calculated at 100,000.

Nov. 1. The New Central Criminal Court opened at the Old Bailey.

Incendiary fires occurred with alarming frequency in various parts of England. In most of the cases the owners were insured.

4. Marshal Gerard having previously resigned, the rest of the French ministers, De Rigny, Duchatel, Thiers, Guizot, Humann, and Persil, tendered their resignations, which were accepted, and, in a few days after, the duke of Bassano was appointed prime minister, with a new cabinet. This new ministry resigned in three days, and the former ministry, excepting Gerard, resumed office, the duke of Treviso being premier.

10. Earl Spencer died at his seat, Althorp Park, aged 76. He was first lord of the admiralty under Mr. Pitt's administration from 1794 to 1801, the period of the great naval victories of Camperdown, Cape St. Vincent, and the Nile. He retired when Mr. Addington became premier.

15. MELBOURNE MINISTRY DISSOLVED.

—An extraordinary sensation produced this morning, by the announcement that the king had dismissed the ministry. It appeared that lord Melbourne had waited upon his majesty at Brighton on the 14th to take his commands on the appointment of a chancellor of the exchequer, in the room of lord Althorp, removed, by the death of his father, to the house of peers, when his lordship mentioned lord John Russell as the new leader of the house of commons. The king said he considered the government dissolved by the removal of lord Althorp; did not approve of the intended construction of the cabinet; said that lord Brougham could not continue to be chancellor; expressed his dissatisfaction with the men appointed to frame the Irish church bill; and concluded with informing lord Melbourne that he would not impose upon him the task of completing his ministerial arrangements, but would send for the duke of Wellington. In the evening, his lordship returned to town, bringing with him a letter for the duke of Wellington, who waited upon the king on the 16th (Sunday), and advised his majesty to place sir Robert Peel at the head of the administration. Sir Robert had left



England, in October, for Italy. A courier was despatched, who, on the 25th, ten days after leaving Brighton, reached Rome, where he found sir Robert. Next morning the baronet started for England, arrived in London on December 9; on the same day he had an audience of the king, when he accepted the situation of premier. In the interim, the chief offices of government had been provisionally filled by the duke of Wellington. Lord Lyndhurst accepted the seals, but did not resign his office of chief baron of the exchequer till the administration was completed. The latter office lord Brougham offered to fill without salary, merely retaining his retiring pension as ex-chancellor.

15. Lord Stanley elected lord-rector of the university of Glasgow. He had 298 votes; his opponent, lord Durham, 163.

17. A public dinner was given to Mr. Cobbett in Dublin. Sir George Cockburn presided, and two or three Irish members of parliament were present.

Mr. Green, the aéronaut, having rashly ascended from North Shields without car, grappling-irons, or ballast, narrowly escaped being drowned by his balloon rapidly falling into a deep part of the Tyne with such velocity that Mr. Green was forced to the bottom (about nine feet and a half), and stuck in the mud. He had presence of mind, however, to retain his hold of the cord to which he was slung, when he was extricated by the re-ascend of the balloon, and dragged along the water for about fifteen minutes, until he was picked up in a boat.

27. An action was brought against the rev. Robert Taylor, the public lecturer, for breach of promise of marriage, and a verdict given of 250*l.* damages.

30. The duke of Gloucester died at Bagshot Park, aged 58. He was born at Rome; his father was third son of Frederick Lewis prince of Wales. The duke married, in 1816, his first cousin the princess Mary, sister to the king.

A baronetcy has been conferred on Mr. Felix Booth, the gentleman by whose munificent assistance captain Ross was enabled to undertake his expedition to the Polar seas.

*Dec.* In the beginning of the month, public meetings were held in Westminster, Lambeth, Finsbury, and Marylebone, to pass resolutions expressive of a determination not to be deprived of the fruits of the reform bill by a tory ministry.

6. Died at Glasgow, in his 43rd year, the Rev. EDWARD IRVING, a minister of the Scottish church, who experienced the common fate of men resorting to factitious artifices, in rising into a sudden but transitory notoriety. His sermons, or, as he

called them, "orations," affected originality of ideas, and the style of Milton, Jeremy Taylor, and the old writers. These novelties, combined with a remarkable personal appearance and gesticulation, thronged his chapel in London with persons of rank and fashion, who were admitted by tickets. His popularity became such, that his admirers projected a handsome chapel for his accommodation, but, before it was completed, the nine days' wonder had ceased. A revival of the public interest was attempted, by means of prophesyings in an "unknown tongue;" which imposture was detected, mixed up with disordered intellects, and some portion, perhaps, of mistaken enthusiasm.

10. SIR ROBERT PEEL'S MINISTRY.—Immediately sir Robert had accepted the office of first minister, he proposed to lord Stanley and sir James Graham to form part of the new administration, but both declined to pledge themselves to the extent they might be considered bound by accepting office. In consequence, the minister was left entirely to his tory connexions who had opposed the reform bill, or had adopted conservative principles. The following is a list of the Peel ministry:—

Sir R. Peel, *First Lord of the Treasury and Chancellor of the Exchequer.*

Lord Lyndhurst, *Lord Chancellor.*

Earl of Rosslyn, *President of the Council.*

Lord Wharnccliffe, *Lord Privy Seal.*

Henry Goulburn, *Home Secretary.*

Duke of Wellington, *Foreign Secretary.*

Earl of Aberdeen, *Colonial Secretary.*

Lord de Grey, *First Lord of the Admiralty.*

Sir H. Hardinge, *Secretary for Ireland.*

Lord Ellenborough, *President of the India Board.*

Alexander Baring, *Master of the Mint, and President of Board of Trade.*

Sir Edward Knatchbull, *Paymaster of the Forces.*

John Charles Herries, *Secretary of War.*

Sir George Murray, *Master General of the Ordnance.*

The above formed the CABINET:—

Lord Maryborough, *Postmaster-General.*

Earl of Jersey, *Lord Chamberlain.*

Earl of Wilton, *Lord Steward.*

Duke of Dorset, *Master of the Horse.*

Marquis of Winchester, *Groom of the Stole.*

Viscount Lowther, *Vice-President of Board of Trade and Treasurer of the Navy.*

Lord G. Somerset, *First Commissioner of Land Revenues.*

C. W. W. Wynn, *Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.*

Sir F. Pollock, *Attorney-General.*

Sir W. W. Follett, *Solicitor-General.*

IRELAND:—

Earl of Haddington, *Lord Lieutenant*

Sir Edward Sugden, *Lord Chancellor*.

Sir R. H. Vivian, *Commander of the Forces*.

Edward Pennefather, *Attorney-General*.

Joseph Jackson, *Solicitor-General*.

13. After six days' polling, the parishioners of Birmingham refused to assess themselves to a church-rate; the number for the rate being only 1723, against them 6699. There had been no church-rates paid for three years, the incidental expenses of churches and chapels having been paid by voluntary subscription.

16. M. Rouen, the editor of the *National*, was tried by the chamber of peers for a libel on that assembly, in having declared it incompetent to try the men concerned in the riots at Lyons. After a powerful speech from his counsel, M. Carrel, he was convicted, and sentenced to be imprisoned for two years, and pay a fine of 10,000 francs. The sentence was deemed severe, and public feeling was strongly excited in consequence against the peers.

18. Sir Robert Peel, in an address to the electors of Tamworth, announced the principles on which the new ministry intended to act. They may be summed up in these words:—the maintenance of the reform bill as a final and irrevocable settlement—the correction of proved abuses and real grievances—the preservation of peace—resistance to the secularization of church property in any part of the United Kingdom—the fulfilment of existing engagements with foreign powers—strict economy—and a just and impartial consideration of what is due to all interests, agricultural, manufacturing, and commercial.

23. A tumultuous meeting took place at the City of London Tavern. The avowed object of the meeting was to vote an address to the King expressive of approbation of his conduct, in the dismissal of the late ministry; but that object was defeated by a strong muster of reformers headed by Mr. Grote, and, after a scene of extraordinary confusion, the meeting broke up without passing any resolution. On the same evening the lord mayor gave at the Mansion House a dinner to sir R. Peel, and others of the new ministry, with a select party of friends. Sir Robert, on his health being drank, gave a brief exposition of the principles on which the new ministry intended to act, and expressed a hope that it would be supported.

24. The Liverpool market was never better stored than it was on Christmas-eve. One steamer from Ireland brought no less than fifteen tons of plucked geese, which were sold at from 18*d.* to 3*s.* each. It is estimated that there were not less than eight thousand turkeys in the market.

29. Died at Bath in his 69th year, the

Rev. THOMAS ROBERT MALTHUS, the celebrated author on population. He was born at the Rookery, near Dorking, and was the younger son of a private gentleman of independent fortune. His "Essay on Population" was first presented to the public in 1798, chiefly intended as a refutation of the notions of Condorcet and Godwin on human perfectibility, to the realization of which Mr. Malthus held that the tendency of mankind to multiply beyond the means of subsistence would always present an insurmountable obstacle. Finding that his subject required a further and more careful investigation, he, in 1800, visited every country in Europe accessible to English travellers, observing attentively every fact likely to elucidate, confirm, or disprove his conclusions. The fruits of these researches he carefully digested and arranged, and, having embodied with them his first Essay, he published them in a quarto volume. In 1804 he was appointed to the chair of History and Political Economy in the East India Company's college in Hertfordshire, a situation which he filled till his death. He was a man of great amiability of disposition, and the highest virtue,—his life being devoted to inquiries into the causes and remedies of human misery. Observing that the insufficiency of food, arising out of an excess of consumers, was everywhere the primary source of crime and want; the great difficulty to surmount in the progress to social virtue and enjoyment is the co-adequation of population to subsistence; and, as this must be mainly effected by the poor themselves, they are the chief architects of their own happiness. Had this doctrine been promulgated less with an air of discovery, and more as axioms which Wallace, Young, Franklin, and preceding writers, had unhesitatingly admitted, it would probably have encountered less hostility from the religious and natural feelings of mankind. It was welcomed, however, by the rich, who gladly seized the excuse as a solace for indolence; and, hastily concluding that all the ameliorating services which they could render the poor being merely as dust in the balance compared to those which the poor could render themselves, there was not any utility in, nor obligation imposed upon them, to interfere for the amendment of their condition. So far, the tendency of the new principles was pernicious; they hardened the hearts and damped the active benevolence of the intelligent affluent. But the evil must be temporary; for it is plain that the obligations of humanity are as imperative as ever, only they require to be differently answered by fixing attention on the hitherto neglected sources of national suffering.



30. First reformed parliament dissolved by proclamation. It had existed one year and eleven months.

An address to the king in support of the ministry, from the merchants, bankers, ship-owners, traders, and others connected with the city of London, bearing 5730 signatures, delivered to Sir R. Peel, by a deputation consisting of Messrs. Ward, Lyall, Lucas, Wilson, and Brown. The list of names and residences occupied 27 columns of *The Times*, and 240 guineas was charged for its insertion in that newspaper.

In Dublin an association was formed, shortly after the dissolution of the late ministry, which has been termed the "anti-tory association," and which includes nearly forty members of parliament. The political meetings in England and Scotland have been very numerous.

This year has been remarkable for the high temperature of the weather. In the course of the summer the thermometer often ranged between 75 and 83 of Fahrenheit, and on the 30th instant it stood at 53 in the shade at noon. It is also remarkable for the progressive rise which has taken place in most public securities, both British and foreign.

**RELIEF OF AGRICULTURE.**—It has latterly formed an especial object of the legislature to afford relief to this branch of industry, by a diminution in poor-rates, tithes, church-rates, and county-rates. Upon the last, both houses of parliament made inquiries during the last session. In the report of the lords' committee it is stated that, upon a comparison of the county expenditure taken at decennary periods from 1792 to 1832, the increase has been both progressive and considerable. The county-rates in 1792 in England and Wales amounted to 315,805*l.*, and in 1832 to 783,441*l.*, being an increase of 148 per cent. The items that have increased most enormously are the expenses of constables and prosecutions. In a second report, a more uniform and efficient system of prison discipline, as well as a more effective parochial constabulary, are recommended.

**RUSSIA.**—Little more than half a century has sufficed to extend the sway of Russia from the Gulf of Bothnia to the banks of the Pruth, and from the Araxes to the Vistula; whilst she has added, within that interval, an amount of population to her native resources which is nearly equal to that of the United Kingdom. The following is an enumeration of her territorial acquisitions, and the number of inhabitants they contain:—

1770, Bessarabia . . . . .	500,000
1771, The Crimea (incorporated 1783) . . . . .	460,000

1785, Georgia (incorporated 1831) . . . . .	400,000
1793, Little Poland and the Ukraine . . . . .	6,500,000
1794, Western Russia, including Lithuania, Podolia, &c. . . . .	8,500,000
1795, Courland . . . . .	400,000
1803, The Lesghis and other Caucasian tribes . . . . .	300,000
1813, Schirwan . . . . .	140,000
1809, Finland . . . . .	1,400,000
1815, Kingdom of Poland (incorporated 1832) . . . . .	4,000,000
1827, Erivan and districts adjacent . . . . .	150,000
1829, Turkish Armenia, and other cessions by Turkey . . . . .	500,000
	<hr/> 23,350,000

**NEW COLONY IN AUSTRALIA.**—Government has resolved to form a new settlement on the southern coast of Australia, near Spencer's Gulf, which contains a fine harbour named Port Lincoln. Five millions of acres of rich land approximate on St. Vincent's Gulf, and abut on the Murray River, which is navigable for large craft, for one thousand miles in an easterly direction. Kangaroo Island lies off the entrance of these two gulfs, and abounds in salt, fish, seals, kangaroos, and possesses a good soil. The whole lies in latitude from 34° to 36° S., and in E. longitude from 136° to 140°. An interesting feature in this establishment is, that all the land is to be sold, and the produce to be expended in the encouragement of agricultural families to emigrate. Another feature consists in avoiding the error committed in the Swan River settlement, from the dispersion of the settlers, by keeping them locally concentrated for the benefit of mutual intercourse and co-operation.

**ANNUAL OBITUARY.**—Rev. Daniel Lyons, author of the *Environs of London*, and, in conjunction with his brother, of *Magna Britannia*. William Mellish, esq., who left property nearly amounting to three millions, acquired chiefly by contracts for provisioning the navy during the war; he had also an extensive business as ship-owner: his wealth devolved on two daughters, one married to lord Edward Thynne, the other to the earl of Glengall. At Fernando, Richard Lander, 30, the enterprising African traveller. William Thwaites, about 90, tea-dealer of Fenchurch-street, who died worth upwards of 700,000*l.* personal property, of which 500,000*l.* and upwards was left to his widow, the rest in legacies to relatives, the cloth-workers' company, and to charities.

His real estate, owing to his will not being witnessed, went to his nephew, the heir-at-law. At Caen, M. de Bourienne, 64, a schoolfellow of Napoleon at Brienne, and author of a valuable history of that extraordinary man. The July revolution, combined with the loss of his property, is supposed to have deprived him of reason, and he died in a lunatic asylum. At Cheshunt, Herts, Mrs. Susan Cromwell, 90, great-great-granddaughter of the protector, Oliver Cromwell, and the last of that name. At Hampstead, suddenly, Julian Hibbert, 42, a gentleman of fortune, who had lately attracted notice by the open avowal of atheism in a court of justice; he made a will, apparently in contemplation of approaching death, bequeathing his body to the interests of science, and his personal property in legacies to those who had evinced zeal in what he conceived to be the cause of truth and human freedom. At Serampore, in the East Indies, rev. William Carey, 73, the eminent Christian missionary, and distinguished Oriental scholar. At his lodging in the Danish Hong at Canton, rev. Robert Morrison, D.D., 53, eminent Chinese scholar, who in 1811 printed in that language at Canton, from wooden blocks, the Acts of the Apostles: on the arrival of lord Napier at Macao, Dr. Morrison had been appointed secretary to the commission for superintending British affairs in China. Within the rules of the King's-Bench prison, Mrs. Olivia Serres, 63, the self-styled princess Olive of Cumberland, and very notorious impostor (see p. 794). In Throgmorton-street, Alexander Chalmers, 76, a native of Aberdeen, and well-known editor and compiler of many voluminous publications. Mr. Chalmers commenced his literary career about the same time as the late James Perry, proprietor of the Morning Chronicle; the latter as a writer in the General Advertiser, and the former as editor of the Public Ledger. Henry Bankes, esq., 77, long M.P. for his family borough of Corfe Castle, and an active supporter of Mr. Pitt and his successors in the same line of policy. At Edmonton, Charles Lamb, 60: this very amiable man and popular Essayist was a native of Lincolnshire; educated at Christ's Hospital, and from 1789 till 1825 a clerk in the India House, when he retired with a handsome annuity for life. A list of his literary works is given among the "Men of Letters," of this reign; but, as he himself used pleasantly to remark, his chief works remain in M.S. deposited in the archives of the East India Company. Rudolph Ackerman, 70, eminent printseller, who first introduced the art of lithography, and the "Annals" into this country. At an

advanced age, James Biddles, long known as the rich money-lending shoe-contractor of Bishopsgate-street, and who, by penurious habits, accumulated property to the amount of 200,000*l.* and upwards. At Putney, William Jones, 84, marshal of the King's Bench prison. John Fuller, 77, formerly M.P. for Sussex, and a liberal patron of the British Institution. Thomas Stothard, R.A., 78, librarian to the Royal Academy, and distinguished artist. At Carlow, Rev. James Doyle, eminent catholic prelate and polemical divine. Dr. Doyle was the first to propagate in this country the Hohenloe miracles, in the reality of which he appears to have believed. Sir Gilbert Blane, M.D., 85, physician to the king, and author of several medical tracts. Edward Pidgeon, 54, a gentleman of literary acquirements, and one of the translators of Cuvier's Natural History. Thomas C. W. Mahew, 28, a miscellaneous writer, who having become embarrassed in pecuniary matters, put an end to his existence by prussic acid. At Dublin, A. Hamilton Rowan, 83, formerly convicted of treason. Rowland Detrosier, a public lecturer of promising talents. At Florence, Gwyllym Lloyd Wardle, 72, formerly M.P. for Oakhampton, and who obtained great ephemeral popularity by bringing forward his charges against the duke of York. At Brighton, Prince Hoare, 80, secretary to the Royal Academy.

A.D. 1835. Jan. STATE OF PARTIES. —The difficulties which had beset the late Whig ministry were of two kinds. There was the pressure without and resistance within the government. If the measures they brought forward were not of a popular character, they were compromised with the people, on whose support they mainly depended; while, on the other hand, if too radical, there was no chance of forcing them through the strait gate of the upper house of parliament. During the past year the king manifested symptoms of reviving conservatism, and is supposed to have intended to break up the ministry on the resignation of earl Grey (*Speeches of Lord Brougham*, iv., 90, 248); but the prompt declaration of lord Brougham and others, that they had no intention of following that statesman's example by resigning, induced him, contrary to his wish, to continue them longer in office. The warm protestant address, either delivered by or ascribed to his majesty, to the Irish prelates, was trumpeted through the country, and dwelt upon as a proof of the king's dislike to the ministerial plan of church inquiry and reform. This appears to have been the main cause of the dismissal of the ministry; and the removal from the commons of lord Althorp,



and the oratorical tour of the lord chancellor in the North, only secondary pretexts. Moreover, the loss of popularity by the Melbourne cabinet, and the impression which had gained ground that it was weak and incompetent, offered a favourable opportunity for their dismissal. It was looked upon as only the residuum of the original Grey ministry; and the losses it had sustained, by the withdrawal of the earl of Durham, the Stanley section, and the noble premier himself, had not been supplied by the strength and quality of the new infusions. Lord Durham was looked upon as a man of energy, and popular principles, who had felt compelled so often to dissent from the feebleness of his colleagues that he acquired among them the name of the 'dissenting minister.' In Mr. Stanley and Sir James Graham the administration sustained a loss of firmness of principle, parliamentary talent, and official ability; but the dogma they had taken up on the non-secularization of church property formed a serious obstacle to the progress of the ecclesiastical reforms to which public opinion was imperatively directed. The retirement of earl Grey, as before mentioned, was mainly on private grounds, accelerated perhaps by the death of lord Spencer, and the perplexities that grew out of the renewal of the Irish coercion bill. By these defections the main supports of the ministry were gone; what remained was held forth as merely 'lath and plaster,' whose sudden removal by the king excited the surprise, but not in an intense degree the regret, of the nation. After the close of the parliamentary session it had been assailed by Mr. O'Connell, with his wonted tact and power of vituperation, in a series of letters addressed to lord Duncannon. The press attacked it for dilatoriness in its reform movements, and the incapacity of its members; dwelling with particular force on the inconsistencies of lord Brougham in the autumn, in the alternate championship of radicalism and conservatism, and, especially, his lordship's alleged declaration at Inverness, that 'if little had been done in the last session less would be done in the next.' The shopkeepers were dissatisfied with the continuance of the window-duties; the agriculturists with the malt-duty; the political economists with the corn-laws; the friends of popular intelligence with the retention of the newspaper-stamp; and the speculative radicals with a refractory peerage, and the resistance that it had offered to further organic changes. Amidst these discontents the debris of the great reform ministry of 1830 disappeared. No sooner, however, was the arena cleared, and the new performers announced, than

an instantaneous revulsion ensued in the general sentiment. With the advent of toryism was associated recollections of former misrule. Between men who had given substantial proofs of their zeal in the cause of reform, and those by whom its vital changes had been pertinaciously resisted, there seemed no ground for a moment's hesitation. So well convinced was Sir Robert Peel of the predominant state of the national feeling, and of the utter impracticability of a reactive movement, sufficient to sustain him in power, that he never once attempted to base his administration on the legitimate and often-avowed maxims of his party. The constitution had been fundamentally changed, and it was no longer possible for any minister to carry on the government in opposition to the settled and declared sense of the nation. Conforming himself to this altered and irrevocable settlement, his first act was to solicit the co-operation of men who had themselves been the able and eloquent supporters of representative reform. Failing in his overture to Mr. Stanley and his friends, he took the earliest opportunity to make a public declaration of the principles according to which he proposed to administer state affairs. They were strictly those of a whig reformer. He appealed to his past life, to his currency bill, the jury act, and his acts for the amendment and consolidation of the criminal law, as proofs that he was not opposed to the redress of real grievances, and the removal of all recognised abuses. He was not unfriendly to extending some relief to the dissenters, nor to judicial, municipal, economical, and ecclesiastical reform; but on the last he carefully guarded himself against sanctioning the secular appropriation of church property. With all these concessions to popular opinion, which were explicitly and manfully made, it was impossible not to discern an essential difference between the claims to public confidence of the new and the old ministry. The joy felt at the repentance of one prodigal son was naturally great and heartfelt, but in the estimation of right-minded men a preference was due, a deeper debt of gratitude owing, to those who had actually practised, than to those who only promised to be righteous. Among the colleagues of Sir R. Peel were recognised the old opponents of popular rights, whose biographies were associated with oppression, whose hands were yet unclean. Few or none could bring characters untainted by intolerance or jobbing to the new master into whose service they were eager to enter. It was impossible that those who had opposed the Reform Act could, if they had been sincere, faithfully watch over

and mature its natural fruits. These differences determined the current of national opinion in the urgent crisis that marked the commencement of the present year. A common danger threatened the reformers, and minor disagreements were forgotten or laid aside. In Ireland the agitation of repeal was suspended; in England the ballot, extension of suffrage, the triennial act, and a reform of the house of lords. Scotland remained grateful to the men who had first given her political existence. Whigs and radicals everywhere coalesced, and the electors of the United Kingdom became consolidated into the two great parties, of those friendly, and those opposed, to the Peel ministry. The new parliament exhibited a similar political division, save the Stanley section, which professed to be neutral; neither would Sir F. Burdett, nor Mr. Cobbett, identify himself with the opposition.

Jan. 5. Mr. D. W. Harvey and Mr. Humphreys returned without opposition for Southwark; and were the first members returned to the new parliament.

9. The arrival of president Jackson's message in France produces great excitement by its threatening import. The cause of dispute has been noticed, (*Mar. 27, 1834*.) and arose out of certain claims of indemnification by America on France, for property destroyed during Buonaparte's wars, and which had been repeatedly admitted by successive French administrations, and promised to be liquidated, not having been paid. After some negotiation, during which the French ambassador was about to be recalled from Washington, and the American minister at Paris had demanded his passports, the French government concluded that it was better to be just than valiant, and agreed that the money should be forthcoming.

26. At the sitting of the *Tribunal de Premier Instance* at Paris, a process was instituted by the duke of Cambridge, against Charles, ex-duke of Brunswick, for the purpose of having all the property of the latter placed in his hands, according to arrangements which were represented to have been made between William IV., the reigning duke of Brunswick, the duke of Cambridge, and other members of the family; and by which the duke of Brunswick was placed under the guardianship of the duke of Cambridge, who now sought to obtain possession of the duke's property in France. Duke Charles appeared in person to plead his cause. The Tribunal decided that it had no power to interfere as prayed for, and condemned the duke of Cambridge to pay the costs of the suit.

GENERAL ELECTION.—By the dissolution, the Peel ministry obtained a greater

accession of strength than was expected, but it was not sufficiently reinforced to enable it to carry on the government. In the counties and boroughs the whigs and radicals lost about a hundred seats. These victories, however, still left the conservatives a minority, in the proportion of 302 to 356. There were 184 new members returned. The contests were unusually numerous and severe, but, owing to the great improvements effected by the Reform Acts, there was little rioting, and none of a serious description. A remarkable feature of the elections was the closeness of the poll. In several cases the successful candidate had only a majority of about half a dozen, and in one or two instances a single vote turned the scale. The Liverpool election was keenly contested. The last hour was critical. In every direction were seen vans, gigs, and flies in rapid motion, and the price of a vote rose from 15*l.* to 25*l.* All the metropolitan boroughs were spiritedly struggled for, but not a single ministerialist could obtain a seat; and even conservative whigs were rejected, as in Marylebone and Finsbury, to make way for radicals. The sixteen city and suburban members were in general men of the ballot, of an extended suffrage, of short parliaments, voluntary churches, and an elective house of lords, or no lords at all. On the other hand, the towns of Bristol, Exeter, Newcastle, Hull, Warrington, Halifax, York, and Leeds, dismissed each of them a whig, to return a tory. So far as England was concerned, ministers had a majority, chiefly through the county representatives. In Scotland the balance of parties remained nearly the same. Whigs were ousted from five counties; they succeeded in three where they had formerly failed, and in one of these, Sir George Murray, the new master general of the ordnance, was rejected. Nothing could be more conservative than the elective peerage of Scotland. In the late parliament it contained only one nobleman, lord Elphinstone, of whiggish propensities; he was left out, and lord Reay substituted. It was Ireland that mainly gave the opposition their preponderance, but even here the retinue of Mr. O'Connell was rather diminished. His energy and vast influence, however, made him generally successful. Radicalism, with the addition of repeal, formed the creed of his candidates. On the Dublin hustings he said, "Sink or swim, live or die, I am for repeal." Exclusive trading, and other threats of intimidation were employed. "Every one," declared the agitator, "who votes for the orange knight of Kerry, shall have a death's head and cross bones painted on his door." The knight of Kerry was



thrown out. Mr. O'Connell was returned for Dublin, by a majority of only 217, and his colleague, Mr. Ruthven, had still fewer, and the returns of the successful candidates were disputed.

*Feb. 3.* In the *Gazette* appears the names of the royal commissioners appointed to consider the several dioceses in England and Wales, with reference to their revenues and duties; the prevention of attaching by *commendum* benefices with cure of souls to bishoprics; also for considering the state of the cathedral and collegiate churches, with a view to the suggestion of remedies conducive to the efficiency of the church, and the prevention of non-residence.

7. Joseph Ady, a well-known quaker, who endeavoured to earn a subsistence by writing letters to individuals informing them that, on receiving a fee, he would inform them of something to their advantage, was tried in the Central Criminal Court, for obtaining money on false pretences. He was found guilty, and sentenced to seven years' transportation.

9. Mr. O'Gorman Mahon, late M.P. for Clare, indicted Mr. Wigley, an attorney, for perjury, in the court of king's bench. Mr. Wigley was acquitted, and on the parties leaving the court a quarrel ensued, when Mr. Mahon struck Wigley a severe blow on the face. He was brought back in custody, and was committed for three days for contempt of court. On giving bail to meet the charge of assault, he was released.

9. NEW PARLIAMENT opened by commission. It met in temporary chambers that had been erected for the accommodation of the legislature on the site of those that had been destroyed by the fire of last year. The commons occupied the site of what was the house of lords—the lords that of the painted chamber. A sharp struggle for the speakership was anticipated, as it was known both parties intended to propose a candidate, and the issue was looked forward to as a trial of strength. Accordingly, on the first day of the session there was a larger assemblage of members than had ever before been collected. The re-election of Sir C. M. Sutton was proposed by lord F. Egerton, and the motion was seconded by Sir C. Burrell; after which, Mr. W. J. Denison proposed Mr. Abercromby, and Mr. W. Ord seconded the motion. A debate of some length followed, in which the principal speakers, besides Sir C. M. Sutton and Mr. Abercromby, were, for the motion of Lord F. Egerton, Lord Stanley and Sir Robert Peel; and for that of Mr. Denison, lord John Russell. About six o'clock the house divided, when the numbers were 306

for Sutton, and 316 for Abercromby; a result hailed with loud cheering by the majority.

11. Death of earl Daruley at his seat, Cobham Hall, from the effects of an accident. He had been giving directions to some workmen, and took up a woodman's hooked bill to lop off a branch, but unfortunately separated two of his toes. His lordship was in his 40th year.

15. Died at Alresford, Hampshire, HENRY HUNT, late M.P. for Preston, a gentleman who, since his first appearance at the Spa-fields meeting in 1816, had taken a leading part in the proceedings of the radical workpeople. He was born at Widdington Farm, on Salisbury plain, and for many years regularly attended Devizes market. After his father's death he was elected chairman of the table in the large dining-room of the farmers at the Bear inn; the daughter of the landlord of which inn, Miss Halcomb, he married. After a conjugal union of many years, he separated from this lady, owing to an unfortunate, and, according to his own account of the matter in his "Memoirs," written by himself in Ilchester Gaol, an uncontrollable attachment he had conceived at Brighton for the wife of colonel Vince, with whom he afterwards lived. As private character is essential to public confidence, this dereliction in moral conduct operated greatly to his disadvantage in his subsequent aims at political notoriety. Though fond of pleasure, no man attended more strictly to his farming business, and no farms in the kingdom were managed better, or in higher condition, than his. He had the best flock of Southdown sheep in the county, the wool of which sold for the highest prices. In 1801, when the apprehension of an invasion was so great that circulars were addressed to the churchwardens, requiring from every parish a return of live and dead stock; in Mr. Hunt's schedule was an enumeration of possessions hardly inferior to those of Job prior to his desolation,—namely, of wheat, 1600 sacks; barley, 1500 quarters; oats, 4500 quarters; hay, 250 tons; cart-horses, 30, value from 30 to 70 guineas each; working oxen, 10; cows, 20; sheep, 4200: all which he offered to place at the disposal of government, in the event of an invasion. A violent altercation with lord Bruce, commander of the Marlborough troop of yeomanry, of which Mr. Hunt was a member, involved him in a criminal prosecution, that terminated in sentence of imprisonment for six weeks for a breach of the peace. An impression of lordly wrong, or the fact of meeting with Waddington and some other radicals in prison, seems to have determined his subsequent political course, the chief incidents in which have been noticed

among the domestic occurrences of the time. A seat in parliament was long an object of Mr. Hunt's ambition; he contested the representation of Bristol in 1812; stood once for Westminster, and twice for the county of Somerset, but was unable to succeed till the excitement of the Reform Bill in 1830 enabled him to defeat Mr. Stanley for Preston. He was re-elected in 1831, but in the following year the Derby interest resumed its sway in that borough. Mr. Hunt had left London on a journey of business to the West of England, where he had considerable connexion, for the sale of shoe-blackening and annatto, or cheese colouring, and was in the act of stepping from his phaeton, when he was seized with a violent fit of paralysis that proved fatal. He was a man of considerable natural shrewdness and readiness at reply, without literary cultivation; perverse in disposition, greedy and vain of vulgar applause; and was little scrupulous about the weapons he used to combat his adversaries. His favourite element was the conflicts of popular assemblages, and he was such a determined bidder for mob favour, reckless whether the price could be paid or not, that he always set competition at defiance. Thus, when one of his opponents had proposed to extend the elective suffrage to every male person 21 years old, Hunt boldly offered to extend it to every male 18 years of age. Against such a rival there was no standing, it being impossible by any plunge ever to reach the nethermost abyss by which he kept alive his loved vocation of popular excitement and leadership. In person he was a fine man, and in this respect it was a common boast of Mr. Cobbett, in his *Weekly Register*, that the London newspaper press could not produce two individuals to match them.

24. The king opened the business of the first session of the SECOND REFORMED PARLIAMENT. After adverting to the state of foreign relations, which did not offer any points of interest, his majesty informed the commons that the estimates were framed with the strictest regard to economy; admitted the state of commerce and trade to be satisfactory, but suggested the relief of agriculture by the transfer of some of its burdens to property of another description. Attention was called to a final and equitable settlement of the tithe question in Ireland. Measures would be proposed for the commutation of tithe in England, for the improvement of judicial administration, of church discipline, and the relief of dissenters in the marriage ceremony. Attention was directed to the church of Scotland, and to the means by which the opportunities for religious instruction might be increased to the poorer classes; and the

speech concluded with assurances of reliance on the caution which would be exercised in altering laws that affected complicated interests, and were interwoven with ancient usages. In the lords, an amendment to the ministerial address was moved by viscount Melbourne, expressive of a hope that the king's councils would be directed in a spirit of well-considered and effective reform, and lamenting the late dissolution of Parliament. After an acrimonious debate, it was negatived without a division. In the commons a similar amendment was proposed by lord Morpeth, which, after a debate of three nights, was carried by 309 to 302, leaving the ministers in a minority.

28. Died, in his 78th year, earl Nelson, brother of the celebrated admiral. The heir to the titles, a nephew of the naval hero, after enjoying the honour for a few months, died, 31st Oct. He is succeeded by his son, a boy ten years of age.

March 2. Died, in the 67th year of his age, and the 43d of his reign, the Emperor FRANCIS. He was the last elective emperor of Germany, having resigned the title on the formation of Napoleon's confederation of the Rhine, and he was the first emperor of Austria. He had witnessed wonderful changes of fortune. His capital twice entered by the victorious French, and his most valuable provinces severed from his sway, he was compelled to purchase the retention of a diminutive sovereignty by yielding up his daughter to the embraces of a military adventurer. All these wounds were healed, and he lived to see his conqueror perish an exile on a rock. By a surprising course of events, in the production of the principal of which Nature more than man was instrumental, his lost dominions were restored to him, and he left his empire as powerful as he had found it. Buonaparte considered the Austrian monarchy almost indestructible. After many beatings he said of it, "Cette vieille maison d'Autriche ne meurt jamais!" It was English subsidies, which brought to its aid the serf-population of Hungary and Bohemia, that preserved its vitality. Francis was a simple, upright man, without shining abilities. Bred to despotism, he had no idea of anything better, and thought it the best regimen both for himself and subjects. His death made no change in Austrian politics: prince Metternich had long had the direction of the government, whose system was adopted by his son and successor the emperor Ferdinand.

3. Sir Charles Manners Sutton, late speaker of the house of commons, created viscount Canterbury. He had filled the chair during eighteen years. His command of temper, dignity of manner, and



powerful voice; admirably fitted him for the office. Though a conservative, he had been chosen with the approval of ministers to preside over the first reform parliament.

At a meeting of the shareholders of the Thames tunnel, held at the City of London tavern, it was announced that government had placed in the hands of the directors a sum which the engineer thought would be sufficient to complete the work. This sum was 247,000*l.* in exchequer bills, advanced on the security of the property.

10. Marquis of Chandos, in the commons, moved a resolution for the repeal of the malt-tax. It was strenuously opposed by Sir R. Peel, who was supported by most of the opposition, with the exception of Mr. Hume. When the house divided, the numbers for the resolution were 192 against 350. Several members voted for its continuance in violation or evasion of pledges given to their constituents.

12. The attorney-general brought in bills for the reform of the ecclesiastical courts, and for the maintenance of church discipline. Mr. Hume said ministers had crept into the nest of their predecessors, and were hatching their eggs.

14. The *Moniteur* announced the reconstruction of the French ministry, after a tedious interregnum. The only change was in the prime minister, the duke de Broglie replacing marshal Mortier, and MM. Thiers, Guizot, and the rest, resuming their offices. The difficulties in forming an efficient ministry were ascribed to the unwillingness of independent men to become members of a cabinet entirely governed by the will of the king himself. Within about eight months three premiers had resigned; three different cabinets had been dissolved, and the series of changes had terminated by restoring to their offices the men with whom the cycle of resignations had begun.

17. Sir R. Peel explained in the commons the nature of his measure for affording relief to dissenters, relative to the marriage ceremony. It met with general approval in the house and from the sectaries.

19. Mr. O'Brien moved that a provision be made, by an assessment on property, for the relief of the aged, infirm, and helpless poor in Ireland. It was opposed by Mr. O'Connell, and also by Mr. Sheil. The necessity of some provision was generally admitted. Motion withdrawn.

20. Sir H. Hardinge brought forward the ministerial plan for the settlement of the *Irish tithe question*. By this scheme it was proposed that tithe in future should be recoverable only from the chief landlord; that the owner should be entitled to demand only 75 per cent. on the amount to which he has, at present a right; that

the tithe should be redeemable by the landlord at twenty years' purchase, calculated upon the diminished rate; that the proceeds thus arising should be invested in land or otherwise, for the benefit of the tithe-owners; that the tithe arrears of 1834 should be paid out of the residue of the million advanced out of the consolidated fund for the relief of the clergy, and repayments on the advances already made under the million act should be remitted. Lord John Russell contended that the present bill was, in principle, identical with that brought in last session by the late ministers, and which had been thrown out by the present government and their friends. Mr. O'Connell, on the contrary, endeavoured to show that the two measures were dissimilar. The main distinctions between the two appeared to be, that the bill of last session made the landlords a present of two-fifths of the whole tithes, or 40*l.* in every 100*l.*—secured the clergyman 77½ per cent. of his present legal income—and devolved an annual charge, equal to 17½ per cent. of the whole tithes, upon the consolidated fund; whereas it was now proposed to give the landlords only one-fourth of the whole tithes—to secure to the clergyman only 75 per cent. of his present legal income—and to devolve no charge upon the consolidated fund whatever. The present measure much more nearly resembled the shape in which the bill of the late ministers was originally brought in than that into which it was eventually transformed, on the application of the Irish landlords, and in which it was thrown out by the lords. Ministerial resolution passed by 213 to 198.

23. Lord Brougham presented a petition, numerously signed by inhabitants of the city of London, in favour of the abolition of the stamp-duty on newspapers; and in doing so, took occasion to address their lordships at considerable length, in support of the views of the petitioners. No observations upon the subject, however, were made by any of the ministers.

24. Sir R. Peel brought forward his plan for effecting a commutation of tithes in England, by *voluntary* agreement between the owner and payer of tithes; the payment in money in lieu of tithe to be subject to variation at stated periods, according to the prices of corn. A resolution embodying the leading principle of the plan was agreed to.

Duke of Richmond's motion for a select committee to consider the subject of prison discipline in England, agreed to.

28. Court of common council of London passed a resolution, declaring that aldermen ought to be elected for seven years only instead of for life as at present.

A dinner given to lord John Russell at the Freemasons' Tavern, London. Nearly 300 members of parliament were present. Lord Morpeth, chairman; Mr. Fox Maule, lord Ebrington, the earl of Kerry, Mr. Grote, and lord Dalmeny, among the speakers.

Prince Augustus of Portugal, after being for little more than a month the husband of the young queen Donna Maria, died of a sore throat. He was only 24 years old, and was the son of Eugene Beauharnois, formerly viceroy of Italy, and step-son of Napoleon by the empress Josephine.

30. Lord John Russell, after the house had been called over, brought forward his resolution on the IRISH CHURCH,—“That the house should resolve itself into a committee of the whole house, to consider of the temporalities of the Church of Ireland.” The motion was met by sir Edward Knatchbull with a direct negative; and a debate ensued, which was continued by adjournments over the three following nights. The speakers in favour of the resolution were, Mr. Ward, lord Howick, Mr. Shiel, Mr. Charles Wood, Mr. Poulter, Mr. Feargus O'Connor, sir John Hobhouse, Mr. Sergeant Talfourd, Dr. Lushington, Mr. Littleton, Mr. Spring Rice, sir John Campbell, Mr. Sergeant Wilde, Mr. Fowell Buxton, lord Clements, and Mr. O'Connell. Those on the other side were, sir James Graham, Dr. Lefroy, colonel Damer, sir Robert Inglis, Mr. W. E. Gladstone, sir William Follett, Mr. Praed, Mr. Bielby Thompson, sir Henry Hardinge, lord Stanley, Mr. Richards, Mr. Goulbourn, Mr. Horace Twiss, Mr. Borthwick, and sir Robert Peel. At length, after lord John Russell had shortly replied, the house divided at nearly three o'clock on the morning of April 4, when the numbers were found to be, for the motion, 322; against it, 289.

Lord Elliot and Colonel Gurwood were this month sent on a mission to Spain, by the duke of Wellington, to endeavour to put a stop to the cruelties practised by the belligerents, and render the war between the Carlists and constitutionalists less bloody and revengeful. Examples of the reciprocal massacre of prisoners when the fight was over had occurred last year, and in this had occurred instances of like atrocities, both on the part of Mina and Zumalacarreguy. The Christinos hesitated at first to enter into any terms with the Carlists, whom they deemed rebels, but at length it was mutually agreed upon, between General Valdez and Don Carlos, that the prisoners taken on either side were to be treated as prisoners taken in ordinary war. The stipulations were only observed a few months, when the former barbarities were again practised.

Apr. 4. Lord John Russell, in a committee on the Irish Church bill, moved,—“That it is the opinion of this committee, that any surplus which may remain after fully providing for the spiritual wants of the members of the established church of Ireland ought to be applied to the *general education* of all classes of Christians.” Debate adjourned

6. Debate resumed, and the resolution carried by 262 against 237.

7. Report of the committee being brought up, lord John Russell moved,—“That it is the opinion of this house that no measure upon the subject of tithes in Ireland can lead to a satisfactory and final adjustment which does not embody the principle contained in the foregoing resolution.” Another long debate followed, which terminated at one o'clock in the morning, when there appeared, ayes 285, noes 258; majority against ministers, 27.

8. DISSOLUTION OF THE PEEL MINISTRY.—To-day the duke of Wellington in the upper house, and sir Robert Peel in the lower, announced their resignations in consequence of the resolution passed the preceding night. Sir Robert took his leave in a well-conceived speech, that elicited the praise of lord John Russell, and the consentaneous cheers of all parties. Though thwarted by the commons, he parted with them on good terms, and declared that, as the whole of his political life had been spent among them, the remainder of it should be spent there, and that he should always wish to stand well with the house, whether in a majority or minority. (*Ann. Reg.* lxxvii. 231.) His premiership had been brief, but characterised by ability, directness, and liberality. It showed that toryism might exist in name, but that in practice it had disappeared. Abuses had ceased to be defended: economy was cultivated; inquiry into and information on all branches of the public service were readily conceded. All the ministerial plans had been framed to meet the public wants, and conciliate the public suffrages. They were mostly judicious, and satisfactory to the nation. The marriage bill satisfied the scruples of the sectaries; the Irish tithe bill was copied from that of their predecessors with amendments; and the chief defect of the bill for the commutation of English tithes was in its being voluntary in lieu of compulsory.

It was not in respect of the new practices of the tories, but their old, and as many believed innate propensities, that the commons turned round upon them. Their conversion was deemed suspicious, and suspected to be a hollow conformity to perpetuate official existence. Hence it was determined to try them, by bringing



into the battle-field Mr. Ward's appropriation clause (see May 27, 1834); it was not necessary to the progress of the Irish tithe bill, and it was used merely as a test to ascertain their progress in sound doctrine. This touchstone they could not withstand; ancient sympathies revived, and they recoiled from the idea of assenting even in words to the contingency, that if the wealth of the church was found redundant, it should be applied to any other purpose, not even to the laudable one of making the superfluity of the rich subservient to the education of the poor. Finding that this alternative would be pressed upon them, and their refusal to adopt it would be made the ground of an address to the king, expressive of a want of confidence in his ministers, they resigned their places. The parliamentary session up to the present had been comparatively lost. It was evident, from the majorities against them at the commencement, that the ministry could not stand, but the opposition allowed them to describe their plans, and seemed disposed to despatch them by the established parliamentary routine, not by violence to hasten their dissolution.

9. The coffee-dealers of the metropolis represent to the Treasury the advantages of a further reduction in the duty on coffee, by tending to the increase of the revenue, to the benefit of consumers, and the prevention of adulteration with chicory and other deleterious articles.

10. *Gazette* announced the elevation of Alexander Baring, M. P., to the peerage, by the title of baron Ashburton.

A woman named Mary Ann Burdock was tried at Bristol for poisoning an old lady who lived with her. The trial lasted two days, and excited unusual interest. It appeared that the lady who was poisoned was possessed of a considerable sum of money, which excited the cupidity of the prisoner, who destroyed her by mixing arsenic in some gruel. This was on the 23d Oct., 1833. Circumstances having subsequently excited suspicion, the body was, fourteen months afterwards, taken out of the grave and examined, when the appearances presented led to the apprehension of the prisoner. She was executed on the 15th, and the crowd assembled on the occasion was immense.

During the administration of sir R. Peel, the following pensions were granted:—Professor Airy, 300*l.*; Mr. Southey, 300*l.*; Mrs. Somerville, 200*l.*; James Montgomery, 150*l.*; Sharon Turner, 200*l.*

14. The colonial office has determined on an issue of silver coins to pass current in the West Indies at 3*d.* and 1½*d.*, as well as of shillings and sixpences, to pro-

mote the success of the apprenticeship system.

18. MELBOURNE MINISTRY RESTORED.—On the resignation of sir R. Peel the king sent for earl Grey, who, whatever advice he might tender, declined the task of forming a new administration. (*Ann. Reg.* lxxvii. 235). The business therefore devolved on viscount Melbourne, who promptly completed his ministry out of his former materials; the chief alterations were the incorporation of lord Howick, the eldest son of earl Grey, in the cabinet, and the omission of lords Brougham and Althorp, now earl Spencer. On the premier mentioning the completion of his undertaking in the lords on the 18th, lord Alvanley asked him if he had secured the assistance of Mr. O'Connell and his friends, and, if so, on what terms? Lord Brougham protested against this interrogatory as disorderly; and lord Melbourne replied that he did not know whether or not he should have the support of Mr. O'Connell, but he had taken no measures to secure it. The following formed the new cabinet:—

Viscount Melbourne, *First Lord of the Treasury.*

Marquis of Lansdowne, *President of the Council.*

Lord Palmerston, *Foreign Secretary.*

Lord John Russell, *Home Secretary.*

Rt. Hon. Charles Grant, *Colonial Secretary.*

Rt. Hon. Spring Rice, *Chancellor of the Exchequer.*

Viscount Duncannon, *Lord Privy Seal, and Chief Commissioner of Woods and Forests.*

Lord Auckland, *First Lord of the Admiralty.*

Sir John Hobhouse, *President of the India Board.*

Rt. Hon. C. Poulett Thomson, *President of Board of Trade.*

Lord Howick, *Secretary at War.*

Lord Holland, *Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.*

The appointments not Cabinet were:—

Sir Henry Parnell, *Paymaster of the Forces and Treasurer of the Navy.*

Lord Morpeth, *Irish Secretary.*

Marquis of Conyngham, *Postmaster-General.*

Charles Wood, esq., *Secretary to the Admiralty.*

Lord Dalmeny, Admiral Adam, Admiral Sir W. Parker, and Captain Elliott, *Junior Lords of the Admiralty.*

Lord Seymour, W. H. Ord, and Robert Stewart, esqrs., *Lords of the Treasury.*

T. Baring, and E. J. Stanley, esqrs., *Joint Secretaries of the Treasury.*

Robert Gordon and Vernon Smith, esqrs.  
*Joint Secretaries to the Board of Control.*

Sir Rufane Donkin, *Surveyor-General of the Ordnance.*

Colonel Leith Hay, *Clerk of the Ordnance.*

Colonel Anson, *Storekeeper of the Ordnance.*

Sir George Grey, *Under Secretary of the Colonies.*

Lord Fordwich, *Under Foreign Secretary.*

Earl of Mulgrave, *Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.*

Hon. Fox Maule, *Under Secretary for the Home Department.*

H. Labouchere, esq., *Vice-President of the Board of Trade and Master of the Mint.*

#### Appointments in the household:—

Marquis Wellesley, *Lord Chamberlain.*

Lord Albert Conyngham, *Vice-Chamberlain.*

Duke of Argyll, *Lord Steward.*

Earl of Albemarle, *Master of the Horse.*

Earl of Errol, *Master of the Buckhounds.*

Earl of Gosford, *Captain of the Yeoman Guard.*

#### Legal appointments:—

Sir John Campbell, *Attorney-General.*

R. M. Rolfe, esq., *Solicitor-General.*

Cutlar Fergusson, esq., *Judge-Advocate.*

J. A. Murray, esq., *Lord Advocate for Scotland.*

Mr. Cunninghame, *Solicitor-General for Scotland.*

Lord Plunket, *Lord Chancellor of Ireland.*

Serjeant Perrin, *Attorney-General for Ireland.*

Michael O'Loughlin, esq., *Solicitor-General for Ireland.*

The Great Seal was reserved, and for the present put in commission. The commissioners were sir Charles Pepys, master of the rolls; sir Lancelot Shadwell, vice-chancellor; and Mr. justice Bosanquet. The change of ministers and some peerage creations caused several elections. Mr. Littleton being raised to the upper house by the title of lord Hatherton, a vacancy occurred in the county of Stafford. A conservative took the field and was returned. Mr. Charles Grant was created baron Glenelg, and the Scotch county of Inverness, which he had represented, returned a conservative. Lord John Russell was unexpectedly defeated in his re-election for South Devon. His lordship became member without opposition for Stroud, a vacancy having been made for him by the retirement of colonel Fox, who

became secretary to the ordnance. By a similar negotiation, Mr. Kennedy, member for Tiverton, made room for lord Palmerston, who had lost his seat for Hampshire at the general election. In Yorkshire lord Morpeth was opposed, but carried his election by a large majority. Other ministers were re-elected without opposition. It is curious to remark, in respect of the restored ministry, the caprice of popular opinion. They were the same men, with one or two exceptions, that had become unpopular in the autumn, from the supposed want of general ability and zeal in the cause of reform. The nation now gladly witnessed their return to power as a happy escape from tory government; and they actually acquired strength, either from the increasing favour of the people, or the temporary indifference to political questions that usually follows a previous state of high excitement.

20. Commons adjourned to May 12.

At the end of the month the French chamber of deputies decided against the emancipation of the negroes, by a majority of 240 to 511. This decision is not honourable to the practical philanthropy of France. Deputies seemed willing enough to emancipate at the expense of the slaveholders, and to enjoy the honours of a vicarious generosity; but when it was suggested that a compensation, after the example of England, must be made to the planters out of the French purse, they clapped their hands on their pockets and at once refused to entertain the question.

May 4. Duel between lord Alvanley and Morgan O'Connell, M.P., which terminated without injury to either party after firing several pistols. It originated in Mr. O'Connell taking up the dispute of his father with his lordship.

5. FRENCH POLITICAL TRIALS.—These trials originated in the insurrectionary riots (see April 9, 1834) of the republicans at Paris and Lyons, and which the government had suppressed by the bayonet and grape-shot, and the apprehension of 1000 persons. The question that had latterly agitated France, had been the mode of dealing with this mass of prisoners, whether by a general amnesty or by bringing them to trial. By the French charter the king has power to transfer the trial of political offences from the ordinary tribunals by a jury to the chamber of peers. Before the peers it was determined to bring the accused, and before this tribunal the entire body had been arraigned in the past year, and 164 selected for trial, the rest being discharged. The trials commenced on the 5th inst., preparatory to which a vast military force had been silently collected in Paris and the environs.



A temporary hall of wood, which cost 14,000*l.*, had been erected, the peers' chamber being too small for the purpose. The group of prisoners when brought to the bar presented a strange appearance. Many wore cocked hats, all moustachios, several had long beards, and one was shaved, combed, and dressed, so as to present a likeness of Robespierre. They were mostly weavers, newspaper-writers, and half-pay officers. Some days elapsed before the proceedings could be seriously entered upon. The accused insisted on an unlimited right in the choice of counsel, either from the French bar or elsewhere. This overruled, they objected to the jurisdiction of the court—refused to answer interrogatories—and denied the legality of the proceedings. Many were tried in their absence, and it was not till August 17 the peers were able to give judgment against the Lyonnese section of the accused, fifty-two in number, who were sentenced to imprisonment for life, or for a term of years. While the Lyons prisoners were being disposed of, most of those of Paris, who were really the most dangerous of the two classes, had contrived, by a subterraneous passage, to escape from the prison of St. Pelagie. Further proceedings in this state prosecution, or, as the Parisians termed it, the *procès-monstre*, were adjourned.

8. A deputation, headed by Dr. Birkbeck, waited upon the chancellor of the exchequer in order to lay before him statements relative to the repeal of the stamp-duty on newspapers. A long conversation ensued, chiefly upon the financial difficulties connected with the removal of the stamp-duty. The conference lasted two hours.

11. Lord Mulgrave, the new lord lieutenant of Ireland, landed at Kingston and was escorted into Dublin by a vast assemblage of the people, who went in procession to meet him.

A dinner given to sir Robert Peel at the Merchant Tailors' Hall, at which the duke of Wellington and other public characters were present. Sir Robert Peel spoke at considerable length, and urged upon those around him the necessity of exertion in order to obtain effective influence in the house of commons, as the only check to those evils which he apprehended from the present state of things. In the forenoon a man had been brought before the lord mayor, charged with sticking up in the city the following placard:—"Poor men—take notice! A dinner to Peel will be given by the rump of the Pitt and plunder faction, assisted by the self-elected and corrupt courts of assistants of the grocers, tailors, goldsmiths, and skippers, 7 city aldermen, 7 poverty-stricken peers, 29 defeated candidates, 5 bishops, a bloated buffoon, the

idiot, and a mayor, on Monday next, May 11th. The expenses to be defrayed out of the funds left for charitable purposes." The bill-sticker was ordered to find bail.

12. GERMAN COMMERCIAL LEAGUE.—Prussia, strong without, and enjoying prosperity and peace within, has almost completed her great scheme of uniting the German states in one body, so far as concerns the duties on exports and imports. The grand-duchy of Baden, whose position in regard to France rendered its accession to the system an object of much importance, had long resisted; but all difficulties were overcome, and Baden on the 12th inst. signed the mutual treaty as a member of the league. Hitherto the custom-duties had varied in each state, being higher in some and lower in others. A necessary consequence was, that each state was surrounded by its own line of custom-houses, and guarded by its own peculiar system of protective or prohibitory duties. To each of them all the neighbouring states were foreign countries; trade was hampered, and manufactures were depressed by innumerable obstructions; and the expense of maintaining so many fiscal establishments was a heavy drawback on the revenues which they collected. Prussia had laboured for several years to unite the different members of the confederation in a treaty, which would establish one tariff for all the states, the duties to be collected on the frontier only of what would then form one commercial union, and thus relieve the industry and intercourse of the interior from interminable lines of custom-houses. One after another, Bavaria, Hesse Cassel, Wurtemberg, Hesse Darmstadt, the small states of Thuringia and Baden joined the association. Hamburg and Frankfort next entered the union; the latter city had been kept back till it had procured the revocation of a treaty it had concluded a short time previously with England. The entire confederacy now consists of four kingdoms, three grand dukedoms, and more than twenty smaller states; the whole comprising 8654 German square miles, with 27,728,000 inhabitants. (*Foreign Quarterly Review*, xliv. 306.) As the inhabitants are generally industrious, and their industry being chiefly connected with agriculture, there is no natural tendency among them to vie with English manufactures; and nothing save a mistaken policy can thwart the continuance and even extension of a commercial intercourse, attended with reciprocal benefits. That this has been the result is shown by the exports of British and Irish commodities to Germany having increased since the first commencement of the league, Jan. 1, 1834. In the four preceding years

the average exports amounted to 4,576,144*l.*; in the four years from 1834 to 1837 inclusive to 4,782,207*l.*

14. At the annual meeting of the London Missionary Society, at Exeter Hall, a dexterous theft was committed. Amongst the sums collected on the occasion were a quantity of bank-notes and slips of paper, technically termed I O U's, amounting to nearly 600*l.*, which were put apart in a bag, and placed on a table behind the chairman. While the assembly were singing a doxology, the bag was stolen.

18. A corporal of the marines executed at Maidstone for the murder of a woman, whom, in a fit of drunken fury, he had stabbed with his bayonet. The jury on the trial expressed themselves in strong terms on the inexpediency of allowing soldiers not on duty to wear their side-arms.

20. At a convocation held at Oxford, it was proposed to substitute at matriculation a subscription to the following declaration instead of the usual subscription to the 39 Articles:—"I, A. B., declare that I do, so far as my knowledge extends, assent to the doctrines of the United Church of England and Ireland, as set forth in her thirty-nine articles; that I will conform to her liturgy and discipline; and that I am ready and willing to be instructed in her articles of religion, as required by the statutes of this University." On a division the numbers in favour of the alteration were 57, and against it 459.

A meeting held at the British Coffee-house, Westminster, T. W. Coke, esq., in the chair, at which it was resolved to establish a reform association, to ensure the registration of the electors of Britain, and to protect them in the independent exercise of the elective franchise. A large number of names of noblemen and gentlemen appear in the published list of the committee; and G. Grote, M.P., is appointed treasurer of the association. A similar union, the Carlton Club, had been set on foot by the conservatives.

21. At a meeting of the Pitt club, held in Edinburgh, it was, on the motion of lord Meadowbank, resolved to appropriate 1000*l.* sterling for the establishment, in the university of Edinburgh, of a prize to be given annually to the most deserving of the students attending the Divinity Hall, and which should be termed and known by the name of the Pitt prize.

In the upper house, lord Brougham, after entering into the subject of education generally, proposed fourteen resolutions, embodying the leading principles of his plan for the improvement of national education. He expressed himself opposed to the government undertaking the establishment of a general system of schools, on the

ground that such an interference would in all probability check the exertions of private individuals, by means of which he contended that the want of common schools was already in the course of being supplied. He admitted, however, the inferior quality of the education dispensed at such schools, and, to remedy that evil, proposed that normal schools, or schools for the education of teachers, should be instituted and supported from the public funds. Lord Melbourne undertook, on the part of ministers, that the subject should receive the closest and most anxious consideration.

The commons early adjourned, owing to a singular mistake—the name of a member of the house, which had been twice called and supposed to have been answered by the individual as being present, having been inserted in a ballot on an election petition, when the fact was that he had not been present at all. This informality caused an adjournment.

27. At the close of the contested election for South Staffordshire, arising out of the elevation of Mr. Littleton to the peerage, and said to be the only contested election which has occurred there for the last 85 years, a disturbance took place at Wolverhampton, which led to the reading of the riot act and the intervention of the military.

June 1. King Otho having attained his majority, the regency placed the reins of government in his hands. Prior to the landing of the prince at the Piræus, the seat of the Greek government had been transferred from Nauplia to Athens.

4. Anniversary of the charitable schools of the metropolis in St. Paul's cathedral. Among the audience was prince Jameh-ood-deen, a son of Tippoo Saib, and one of the hostages given to lord Cornwallis in 1792, who is at present on a visit to this country.

5. REFORM OF MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS.—To-day lord John Russell introduced the important subject of a reform of the municipalities of England and Wales, and which had been looked forward to with great interest and a considerable degree of impatience by the community. The abuses existing in municipal corporations had for more than two centuries been a matter of constant and nearly universal complaint. Any general remedy, however, was impracticable, while abuses in the representation of the people in parliament were to be maintained. The venal boroughs, of which the franchise was abolished or amended by the Reform Act, were the chief seats of corporation abuse; and the correction of the local evil would have been the virtual destruction of the system by which the aristocracy retained its political ascendancy. Every borough having



the privilege of returning a member to parliament, was indispensable either to the whig or tory party; and in these boroughs the greatest abuses naturally prevailed, because impunity in the neglect of duty, and in the misapplication of the municipal funds, was the cheapest bribe by which the suffrages of the corporators could be purchased. Impunity being thus secured in the parliamentary boroughs, it would have been too trying an experiment on the patience of the people to have undertaken to reform the comparatively insignificant abuses of the non-parliamentary boroughs. The greater abuse thus served to shelter the less; but its chief value was destroyed by parliamentary reform; and moreover, having extended to the people the right of choosing the members of the legislature, the inferior right of choosing their own local authorities could not consistently be withheld. The boroughs of Scotland had, as already stated, (p. 938,) undergone a system of purification by vesting the election of the magistrates and town-councils in the ten-pound householders. In England it was thought advisable to proceed by issuing, in 1833, a commission under the great seal, consisting of twenty gentlemen, to inquire into the state of municipal corporations, their modes of administering justice, their revenues and funds, and the privileges of freemen and other members thereof. The number of places in which the inquiries under the commission were carried on was 237, having a population of 2,028,513. In twenty-five places the number of corporators not ascertained; in the others (212) they amount to 88,509. The governing body is self-elected in 186 boroughs. This body elects the mayor in 131 boroughs, appoints the recorder in 136, and the town clerk in 135. The number of corporators exercising magisterial functions is 1086 in 188 boroughs. In 112 boroughs the corporation has exclusive criminal jurisdiction extending to the trial of various descriptions of offences; and in forty-two their jurisdiction is not exclusive. Seventeen boroughs do not enjoy any income whatever; in eight the precise amount could not be obtained. The total income of 212 boroughs amounts to 366,948*l.*; their expenditure to 377,027*l.*: 103 are involved in debts amounting to 1,855,371*l.*, and are besides burdened with annuities amounting to 4463*l.* In twenty-eight boroughs only are the accounts published; in fifteen the annual income is under 20*l.*; in eleven it is between 2000*l.* and 3000*l.*; in five, 3000*l.* and under 4000*l.*; in one, 4000*l.* and under 5000*l.*; in four, 5000*l.* and under 7500*l.*; in five, 10,000*l.* and under 12,500*l.*; in one, 12,500*l.* and under

15,000*l.*; in one, 15,000*l.* and under 20,000*l.*; in one, 33,000*l.*, and in one, 91,000*l.* In closing their general report on the corporations, the commissioners say: — “Even where these institutions exist in their least imperfect form, and are most rightfully administered, they are inadequate to the wants of the present state of society. In their actual condition, where not productive of positive evil, they exist, in the great majority of instances, for no purpose of general utility. The perversion of municipal institutions to political ends has occasioned the sacrifice of local interests to party purposes, which have been frequently pursued through the corruption and demoralization of the electoral bodies.

“In conclusion, we report to your Majesty that there prevails amongst the inhabitants of a great majority of the incorporated towns a general, and, in our opinion, a just dissatisfaction with their municipal institutions; a distrust of the self-elected municipal councils, whose powers are subject to no popular control, and whose acts and proceedings being secret, are unchecked by the influence of public opinion; a distrust of the municipal magistracy, tainting with suspicion the local administration of justice, and often accompanied with contempt of the persons by whom the law is administered; a discontent under the burdens of local taxation, while revenues that ought to be applied for the public advantage are diverted from their legitimate use, and are sometimes wastefully bestowed for the benefit of individuals, sometimes squandered for purposes injurious to the character and morals of the people. We therefore feel it to be our duty to represent to your Majesty that the existing municipal corporations of England and Wales neither possess nor deserve the confidence or respect of your Majesty's subjects, and that a thorough reform must be effected before they can become what we humbly submit to your Majesty they ought to be, useful and efficient instruments of local government.” Upon these representations, and the mass of evils disclosed by the commissioners in their voluminous returns, lord John Russell founded his bill of municipal regulation. It was elaborately discussed in both houses, and did not pass through its several stages until the end of the session. In the lords it was sharply scrutinized; various amendments were there introduced, which a majority of the commons did not consider improvements. In some of these amendments they refused to concur; on others conferences were held with the upper house; and in others, where agreement or compromise was unattainable, the noble mover recommended that

the commons should acquiesce rather than lose the bill altogether; for, "though deprived of much of its original excellence, it was still an effective reform of municipal institutions." As first introduced, the bill extended to 183 boroughs, including a population of about two millions. Five boroughs were cut off from its operation. To 128 of the more important boroughs a commission of the peace is assigned, while to the remaining 50 a commission will only be granted on application to the crown. Many boroughs, on account of their insignificance, are excluded from the act. London, with its numerous and wealthy incorporated guilds, is reserved for future legislation. The grand feature of the municipal bill is that it vests the local government of a town in the rated and permanently resident inhabitants. "Every male person of full age who, on the last day of August in any year, shall have occupied premises within the borough continuously for the *three previous years*, and shall for that time have been an inhabitant householder within seven miles of the borough, provided that he shall have been rated to the poor-rates, and shall have paid them and all borough rates during the time of his occupation," is qualified to vote for the town-council. In the council is vested the entire deliberative and administrative functions of the corporation. They appoint the town-clerk and treasurer, and from them the mayor and aldermen are chosen. They have the control of the police, watching, and lighting; they may make bye-laws, and impose fines for their non-observance, for the prevention of nuisances, and the due government of the borough. They have the control of the burgess fund: if there be a surplus, after defraying all necessary expenses, they may apply it to local improvements or any object beneficial to the inhabitants; or, if the fund be insufficient, they may order a rate, of the nature of a county rate, to be levied. They have also a power, if they think it requisite that one or more salaried *police magistrates* should be appointed, to fix the amount of such magistrates' salaries, and, upon their application, the crown is empowered to appoint the number of magistrates required. To prevent fraud, jobbing, and waste in the management of the burgess revenue, provision is made for the periodical auditing of accounts, and their subsequent publication. The burgesses yearly appoint the auditors, who must be persons qualified to be councillors, but not actually of that body, lest identity of interest might lead to partiality in the exercise of their function. The *qualification of a councillor* is a property qualification, varying with the amount of population. In

boroughs divided into four or more wards, a real or personal estate of 1000*l.*, or being rated to the poor upon the annual value of at least 30*l.*; in other boroughs a moiety of this qualification suffices. The qualification clause was one of the questionable amendments introduced by the lords, as well as that appointing *aldermen*, an order having precedency merely and no duties distinct from those of councillors; and who appear to have been created either out of a veneration for ancient names and degrees, or from a desire to preserve in the new municipalities a miniature representation of the imperial government of three estates—king, lords, and commons. All the existing rights of freedom, or citizenship, or burgess-ship, in the old corporations, are preserved to the *present possessors*. This was just; as many of these immunities consisted of an interest in charities, lands, or exemption from tolls, which had been purchased by money or services, or acquired by lawful inheritance. But all exclusive privileges of trading, or of exercising any calling or handicraft, in corporate towns are abolished. As the act was framed for the reform of *existing* municipal corporations, it does not apply to the unincorporated towns. But on the petition of the inhabitant householders of any town not corporate, the crown is empowered to extend the provisions of this important statute by the grant of charters of incorporation.

June 5. A bill for establishing a metropolitan water company, which was to obtain supplies of soft water by means of Artesian wells, was rejected in the commons, by 134 to 60.

At the Kent special sessions, the grand jury found a true bill against 18 persons, most of whom were labourers, for being concerned in riots which took place on the introduction of the new poor law bill into that district, and the consequent change of system. On their trials they were all found guilty, but were recommended to mercy.

9. An order in council appeared in the *Gazette*, suspending the Foreign Enlistment Bill in favour of the queen of Spain, and permitting recruits and supplies to be raised in this country for her service. Colonel De Lacy Evans, one of the members for Westminster, was appointed by the Spanish authorities to the command of a British auxiliary legion, raised for that purpose. When a battalion of these troops had landed at St. Sebastian, July 10, Don Carlos issued a proclamation, threatening to shoot all "strangers" taken prisoners.

16. Zumalacarreguy, the commander-in-chief of the troops of Don Carlos, and



a brave and active officer, mortally wounded near Bilbao. He was the modern Montrose of Spain, and the chief support of the Carlist cause. Almost immediately after his death the Carlists raised the siege of Bilbao, and retired dispirited. He was succeeded in command by Moreno, a well-known but inferior man, who presided at the execution of General Torrijos and Mr. Boyd.

17. The forty-seventh anniversary of the Literary Fund celebrated at the Freemasons' Hall. On the health of Azmi Bey, the patron of the Lancasterian system in Persia, being drunk, the compliment was acknowledged by him through his interpreter, who stated that full 10,000 children were receiving instruction under the Lancasterian system in Persia.

18. An explosion took place at one of Mr. Russell's mines at Wallsend, about four miles from Newcastle. Upwards of an hundred individuals, most of them young men and boys, lost their lives by this melancholy occurrence.

18. DEATH OF WILLIAM COBBETT, M. P.—This remarkable public character, after a bustling and varied life, expired on Normandy Farm, seven miles from Farnham, his native place. The late hours of the house of commons, and the change of habits imposed upon him by his entrance at an advanced age into parliament, may have hastened his death a few years. He survived, however, beyond the average term of human existence. According to his own reckoning he was born in 1766; according to his baptismal register, which is the safer authority, he was born in 1762. He was the third of four sons of a small farmer and publican at Farnham, who occupied a house still standing beside the river Wey, which has been known for eighty years past as "The Jolly Farmer." His father was a just man, who, to the extent of his means and ability, did his duty to his children. On the winter evenings he taught his boys to read, write, and cipher; grammar he did not understand, but he made them get the rules by heart, which, though of little advantage unaccompanied with a verbal elucidation of principles, is usually as much as is done for pupils in the ordinary routine of school instruction. William Cobbett had thus the benefit of a good parental example, and, furnished with the chief instruments of knowledge, his future acquirements depended on native talent, inclination, and industry, in none of which he was deficient. Arrived at manhood and desirous of another occupation than husbandry, he became clerk to a London attorney, from the secluded drudgery of whose employment he speedily escaped by enlisting for a soldier. He

was eight years in the army, and, by his correct conduct and superior merit, rapidly passed through every rank from that of private to sergeant-major. He devoted the leisure afforded by a soldier's life to reading and intellectual improvement. After obtaining his discharge, he accused some of his late officers of embezzlement in the regimental accounts; a court-martial was granted at his earnest solicitation: he allowed the court to assemble, and the witnesses on both sides, but, instead of appearing to substantiate his charges, he privately, along with his newly-married wife, withdrew to France. (*Westminster Review*, lxi. 455.) Here he spent six months, the happiest, he used to say, he ever spent in his life. He next went over to New York, and sought, through the means of Mr. Jefferson, employment under the American government. Failing in this application, he commenced giving lessons in the English and French languages, and, in addition, became an author and bookseller. This was about the year 1794.

As public writer Cobbett found his congenial element, and, under the *nom de guerre* he had assumed of "Peter Porcupine," shot his quills in all directions. The French revolutionists, the founders of American independence, the English reformers, and the friends of liberty of every clime, became the unsparing objects of his literary vengeance. His boldness, sagacity, violent abuse, and powers of ridicule and argument, soon attracted notice. But his popularity was short-lived. Exaggeration and audacious virulence, which were his favourite weapons, may conduce to transitory notoriety, but can never long sustain an author in public estimation. He returned to England in 1800; a step hastened, if not rendered unavoidable, by loss of reputation, and the results of several prosecutions for libel instituted against him in the American courts. The fame of his writings had preceded him, and his arrival was welcomed by John Reeves, Mr. Gifford, the police-justice, and other active anti-jacobins, with whom he had corresponded while in the United States. On consulting Mr. Reeves about the state of opinion in London, Reeves told him, as Cobbett used to relate, that there were only two ways of proceeding in this country, either "To kiss or kick," and he must make his election. The eccentric Mr. Windham was one of his warmest admirers; declaring in parliament that the anti-revolutionary writings of Cobbett in America had been so meritorious, that the author deserved "a statue of gold." Under the auspices of these gentlemen, he started a daily paper. During the war, government often lent its aid for the support and

establishment of journals in its interest, and Mr. Cobbett is understood to have received 3000 guineas from the Treasury, to assist in carrying on his *Porcupine Gazette*. His speculation, however, failed, chiefly from mismanagement, the proprietor begrudging the expense necessary to procure the ordinary articles of newspaper intelligence. The paper, which for these reasons had declined in sale, received its death-blow, when, at the peace of Amiens, to which Cobbett was opposed, on his refusing to illuminate his office, the populace broke his windows. In retaliation, he published no paper next day, and when he was again pleased to publish the public would not buy. He was not more successful in the bookselling business, which he also attempted in Pall Mall, under the orthodox emblem of the "Bible and Crown." Mr. Cobbett was never successful in *journalism*, the chief reason of which appears to have been that he was more of a commentator on, than a promulgator of, news and occurrences. Hence, the "Weekly Register," which he established after the abandonment of his daily paper, was the sort of publication best suited to his political dissertations. This remarkable depository of the politics of the day, and of the editor's party sentiments, he carried on with untiring energy and singular versatility of talent up to the period of his death. No occurrence interrupted its publication; neither his business as a large farmer in Hampshire, nor his tours in England and Scotland: his "long arm," as he told his readers, even reached across the Atlantic, and the Register, for almost forty years, was punctual in its hebdomadal appearance, dated from Botley, Barn Elms, New York, or Rhode Island. Contemporary with the Register, he was occupied in various other works, the History and Debates of Parliament, and at a later period in the composition of grammars, histories, travels, and books on gardening and rural affairs. He was very industrious, and, his habits being temperate and regular, he was always fit for his daily task without waste of time. The early volumes of the Register, especially those from about 1803 to 1809, appear to have been carefully conducted; are distinguished by their admirable English composition, cogent reasoning, great novelty of remark and illustration, and are less virulent in style, and more correct in the detail of facts than his earlier or later writings. The sale of the Register, December 31st, 1803, amounted to 4000, which was a great number for the period; and it was circulated at a high price, chiefly among official people and the rich, whose

aristocracy he fiercely and uncompromisingly represented. He was, however, quite a *girouette* in politics, blowing his conch at intervals from every point of the political compass. From 1794 to 1803 he was an intolerant anti-Jacobin, and the panegyrist of Mr. Pitt. In the short interval from 1803 to 1805 he inclined towards the opposition; denounced the Addington ministry because of its pacific policy, and its consisting of men not belonging to the great families; and exerted himself, in conjunction with Mr. Perry, to bring the whigs into power to accomplish a moderate reform in the house of commons. Disgusted with the whigs, when in office, who, he thought, were no better than the tories, from 1805 to 1817 he sided with sir F. Burdett and the Westminster electors, who repudiated both the aristocratical parties. About 1818 he sank into a lower deep; became a republican and a universal suffrage man, and the reviler of all his former principles and associates. From this extreme depression he seemed to be recovering before his death; manifested a favourable disposition towards sir Robert Peel and the tories: but such transitions of sentiment had rendered his co-operation of little value to any party. There were, however, two subjects on which he was generally consistent—he always opposed the funding system and the moneyed interest connected with it; and he was also steadily inimical to the education of the people above the practical knowledge appertaining to their probable condition in life. Although it was in writing that Mr. Cobbett chiefly excelled, he attained to considerable proficiency as a public speaker; and this, like his other acquisitions, was the result of his own efforts. His first attempt, however, was a failure. Lord Brougham, who appears to have been present, thus describes his two appearances, in 1810 and 1820, in a court of justice, in trials for libels:—"He defended himself, and, appearing there, for the first time, before a public audience, exhibited a new but by no means a rare example of the difference between writing and speaking; for nothing could be more dull and unimpressive than his speech, nothing less clear and distinct than its reasoning, more feeble than its style, or more embarrassed and inefficient than its delivery. But he afterwards defended himself, in 1820, against actions brought by private parties whom he had slandered, and then, having by practice in the interval acquired considerable ease in speaking, his appearance was more than respectable—it was very effective. His style was also abundantly characteristic and racy, it had great originality, it suited the man, it possessed



nearly all the merit of his written productions, and was set off by a kind of good, easy, comic delivery, with no little archness of both look and face, that made it clear he was calculated to tell with a popular assembly."—(*Lord Brougham's Speeches*, i. 6.) He became an amusing public lecturer too: the writer remembers being present at one of his exhibitions in the late Surrey Institution, when he gave imitations of lord John Russell, Mr. Brougham, lords Holland and Lansdowne, and other public men, mimicking their tones and gestures, and the supposed evasive arguments they would resort to in the approaching parliamentary session (1830) for postponing reform, which kept his auditors very merry, eliciting roars of laughter.

Although Mr. Cobbett did not enter the house of commons till after the reform bill, he did not fail in that arduous theatre; he was neither obtrusive nor diffident; a frequent and rarely an unsuccessful speaker. Taking him in the two relations of life—active and speculative—owing everything to his own spontaneous exertions, the late M.P. for Oldham was unquestionably one of the most remarkable men of his time. He never became a learned man, he was not deeply versed in any branch of knowledge, not even political economy, though a science intimately connected with the subjects of his weekly lucubrations; he neither treated nor understood questions scientifically, and always affected great contempt for "feelosphy;" but his superficiality was, perhaps, more available to his purpose, and certainly had a more marketable value than deep abstractions. In the politics and common affairs of life he was a proficient; possessed an unerring sagacity in detecting the real from the apparent in both men and measures; and his squandering glances at current impostures were often as serviceable to the community as mortifying to those who sought to profit by them. At the same time, he could himself act as well as detect the *Scapin* tricks of others: he could fill the trough as dexterously as any of his contemporaries, to attract either the herd of democracy or aristocracy. His bringing over from America, (whither he had been driven, as he told his readers, to escape the dungeons of Castlereagh and Sidmouth, but, according to another version, to escape from his creditors,) the bones of Thomas Paine, as relics, upon which to raise money; his scheme for destroying the credit of the Bank of England by the nocturnal sowing of the streets with forged notes; and his various devices for getting into parliament by public subscriptions, are instances of his audacious *raids* on public credulity. He was uncommonly clever it must be al-

lowed, but mere cleverness, unaccompanied with the steady pursuit of noble and virtuous ends, can never constitute a great character. Ability without service to mankind is no more valid a passport to the Pantheon than to the Newgate Calendar. By his strange inconsistencies, Mr. Cobbett and the world were quits at parting; for his utterings on both sides having been nearly equal in zeal and quantity, they did not turn the scale either way, gave to neither a preponderance. His mind had little depth, and no powers of generalization: it was of a legal cast, and his pleadings on public questions were like those of a lawyer who feels bound to utter for his client whatsoever may serve him, without regard to right or wrong, truth or falsehood. The manner, rather than the matter, of his writings, constituted their attraction. He promulgated no new truths, made no new discoveries. But his lucid diction, logical arrangement, graphic stories, jocularity, heartiness of abuse, and semblance of honesty, zeal, and independence, fascinated his readers. Divested of the dross which his violence, dogmatism, and devouring egotism encumbered them, they possess rare and almost unequalled merits. He is always spirited, never vapid or desponding; his humour is rich, glowing, and risible in the extreme: his descriptions of scenes in which he took a part, especially those at public meetings, and of natural scenery, are the best in the language. In spite of his vacillations and imprudences, he always kept a strong hold on public opinion, and continued during almost half a century to interest a numerous class of readers, which, more than anything, proves his extraordinary and versatile powers as a writer. Some allowances must be made for the disadvantages of his personal history. His instincts were probably good, but perverted by unfavourable circumstances. The country alehouse, the attorney's office, the barrack room, and unceasing strife of politics, were better schools for sharpening the intellect than ethical discipline. Owing everything to himself; having trampled by steady perseverance over the drawbacks of humble parentage and education, it is not surprising, though much to be regretted, that his success was alloyed by arrogance, vanity, changeableness, and self-will. He had, however, extenuating excellences. He was independent in his course—too much so perhaps—and seldom truckled to any man or party. He was not selfish, at least, in a sordid sense. His love of money was always subordinate to his love of notoriety. His aims too were superior. He was no trifler, who dawdled away existence in low and frivolous pursuits. Reforms

in public institutions, or improvements in agriculture, were the staple objects to which he was devoted. He always reverted to the scenes of infancy with delight. This and his attachment to a country life showed that a long communion with the world had failed to alienate his affections from the simplicity of nature.

### 30. RUSSIAN INFLUENCE IN TURKEY.—

Both England and France were made practically to feel the influence Russia had acquired over the Porte, by the treaty of Unkiar Skelessi, (see July 8. 1833). By the treaty concluded between Turkey and Britain in 1809, English ships of war were to be allowed to pass the Hellespont only on condition of landing their guns at the Dardanelles. But in the same treaty it was stipulated that England should enjoy every right and privilege allowed "to the most favoured nations in amity with the Porte." By the treaty of Unkiar Skelessi, the Porte agreed to allow to Russian ships free egress from, and ingress into, the Black Sea. It followed, that England could claim the same right of access to the Black Sea, without a new convention to that effect. The case of France stood precisely on the same ground, and both parties determined to ascertain whether Russia, by her secret treaty, had acquired privileges to which they were not admissible. Accordingly the French Government in the month of June applied to the Porte for a passage for a sloop of war to convey M. Texier, who was desirous of pursuing his archæological researches along the shores of the Black Sea. The reis effendi replied that it was impossible to comply with the request, the Porte being bound by treaty to refuse entrance into the Black Sea to the ships of every nation, excepting those of her ally Russia. England applying about the same time for the passage of a government steamer to convey Mr. Ellis, the new ambassador, to Persia, and his suite, to proceed through the Dardanelles to Trebizond, Russia interfered because the vessel was armed, and permission was refused on the same pretext on which it had been refused to France. Shortly afterwards the earl of Durham proceeded from England as ambassador to St. Petersburg. He took the route of Constantinople and Odessa. He arrived in the Dardanelles in the *Barham*, but was transferred with his suite from the *Barham* into an unarmed vessel.

27. The late Mr. Cobbett buried in the churchyard of Farnham, in Surrey, his native town. The funeral was attended by Messrs. O'Connell, Wakley, Fielden, and a number of other gentlemen. The mortal remains of this extraordinary man, after his long and busy life, rest with

those of his humble ancestors. Many thousand persons witnessed the ceremony.

28. Charles Mathews, so justly celebrated in the theatrical world, for the exquisite life and humour of his delineations of character and manners, died at Devonport in his 60th year, after a lingering illness. He was the son of a respectable bookseller in the Strand, a Wesleyan Methodist, who, discovering the irresistible propensity of young Mathews, thus addressed him:—"Charles, there are your indentures, and also 20 guineas; I do not approve of the stage, but I will not oppose your wishes. At any time hereafter, should you feel inclined to turn to an honest calling, there are 20 guineas more, if you send for them, and your father's house is open to you." The second 20 guineas Mathews never claimed. His monò-dramatic entertainments, his "Mail Coach Adventures," his "At Home," and "Trip to America," were a source of infinite amusement during many seasons.

29. Serious disturbances occurred at Great Bircham, in Norfolk, owing to the execution of that part of the poor law amendment bill, which enacts that relief shall be given in kind instead of in money. The peasantry rose in a body against the parish officers, refused to work for the farmers, and assaulted two men who were willing to work. The house of the principal farmer of the parish was attacked and set on fire; but, on the military being called out, the riot was suppressed without bloodshed.

July 1. The sale of a large portion of monastic and other ecclesiastical property ordered to be sold by the Portuguese government began. An apprehension was felt that there might be a difficulty in finding purchasers, but the property sold readily enough. Many foreigners were among the buyers.

8. At a levee, sir F. Shuckburgh, chairman of a committee of Baronets, presented to his majesty two petitions from certain of the baronets of England, of Scotland, of Ireland, and of the United Kingdom, and their eldest sons, praying a restoration of various privileges originally belonging to the order, but stated to have been in abeyance since the Restoration.

9. The eighth vessel which has been taken up by government, under the management of the Emigration Committee, for the conveyance of females to New South Wales, sailed from the Thames. The number sent out in this instance was 160 single females, and about 40 other persons, chiefly agriculturists, and their families.

21. In going into committee on the Irish Church Bill, sir R. Peel moved, that it be divided into two portions, forming separate bills of the tithe adjustment and



appropriation clauses. The proposal was debated three nights, when there appeared for preserving the bill entire, 319; for sir Robert's motion, 282.

21. The duke of Palmella intimated to the British ambassador, that the Portuguese government had determined, under the powers reserved in the treaty of 1810, to declare the Methuen treaty at an end after Jan., 1836. This treaty, altered in some particulars, but continued in its principal provisions, had long regulated the commercial intercourse between Britain and Portugal, and gave, or was supposed to give, peculiar advantages to this country. We had, however, set the first example of departing from its exclusive and in fact impolitic principles, by equalizing the duties on foreign wines, and admitting the wines of France on the same terms as those of Portugal.

24. The "Earl Grey" steam-packet from Rothesay to Glasgow, having stopped at Greenock to disembark passengers and receive others, just as she was about to depart the boiler exploded. Thirty-six persons and upwards were killed and injured.

28. ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION OF LOUIS PHILIP.—During the festivities of the annual commemoration of the revolution of 1830, the French king narrowly escaped assassination. It was the second day of the rejoicings, and appointed for a military review. As Louis Philip was riding along the line of the national guard, on the boulevard du Temple, accompanied by his three sons and a splendid suite, an explosion, like a discharge of musquetry, took place from the window of an adjoining house. The effect was terrific. Marshal Mortier, general de Virigny, several grenadiers, beside lookers-on, among whom was a child, were shot dead upon the spot, some of them having received two or three bullets. Upwards of forty were killed and wounded, of whom fourteen were killed. Yet the object of this indiscriminate slaughter escaped—the king was unhurt. The police, guided by the smoke, rushed into the house whence the explosion proceeded. They seized the assassin, covered with blood, in the act of letting himself down by a rope from the back window of the apartment. He was himself severely wounded, by the bursting of some of the barrels of his "infernal machine;" and his wounds had delayed his escape. The machine consisted of 25 barrels, arranged horizontally side by side, upon a frame, the back part of which could be raised or lowered according to the angle requisite to reach and sweep the space below. Each barrel was loaded with deadly missiles; the touchholes communicated by

means of a train of gunpowder, and the lighting of one simultaneously discharged them all. The window, at a little distance from which the machine was placed, stood open, but the machine itself had been screened from observation by Persian blinds, which were not withdrawn till the instant of explosion. It was conjectured that the time required to open the blinds had not been calculated, which omission saved the king, for the discharge took place immediately behind him, one of the bullets wounding his horse. The assassin turned out to be a Corsican named Fieschi, who had gone through many disreputable vicissitudes,—had been a soldier—stood in the pillory for forgery—suffered two years' imprisonment for theft—and had been a spy of the police. He made no attempt to deny his guilt; he acknowledged no motive except dislike of the king. His trial showed that two persons as obscure as himself had been privy to his enterprise, but not the slightest thread of connexion could be traced between the desperado and any formidable conspiracy or political party. A momentary stupor followed the explosion, but, as soon as it was known that neither the king nor the princes were hurt, it gave place to tumultuous expressions of joy, mingled with rage against the author of the crime. The forms of the review were gone through by the king, but the rejoicings of the revolutionary anniversary were suspended; the tri-coloured flag was veiled in crape; the victims of the massacre were buried with the honours of a public funeral, which the king and his family attended, and pensions were voted by the chambers to the poor persons who had been wounded, and the relatives of those who had been killed.

30. Sir Charles Wetherell addressed the house of lords for three hours, objecting to the principle and provisions of the Corporation Reform Bill, and also to the report of the commissioners on which the bill was founded. He resumed his address on the following day, and was seconded by a two days' speech from Mr. Knight. After they had concluded, lord Melbourne, in answer to the duke of Newcastle, intimated that he would object to hear evidence in support of the arguments of counsel. The duke then remonstrated, threatening to impeach the prime minister; upon which he was reminded that an impeachment could only originate in the commons. Ultimately the lords determined to hear evidence, but the witnesses being chiefly interested parties, town-clerks, and others connected with corporations, the house, Aug. 8, came to an arrangement by which their examinations were concluded.

*Aug. 4.* A warm debate in the commons on Mr. Hume moving eleven resolutions condemnatory of the introduction of Orange lodges into the army, and of the alleged conduct of the duke of Cumberland in having, on various occasions, in his capacity of grand-master, issued warrants for the formation of such lodges. Discussion resumed on the 11th, and a committee appointed to inquire into the Orange lodges of England.

**VIOLATIONS OF THE FRENCH CHARTER.**—The French ministry seized the opportunity afforded by the crime of Fieschi to strengthen the executive power. Although it was soon ascertained that the assassin was unconnected with any political confederacy, the alarm and horror his atrocious attempt occasioned afforded, like the treasonable attack on the person of George III. in 1796, a convenient and plausible pretext for destroying the valuable safeguards of popular liberty. On the 4th the subject was introduced to the chamber of deputies by the president of the council, the duke de Broglie. He said that France, during the last five years, had enjoyed the utmost prosperity in a state of constant alarm and disquietude. Factions, though subdued, still existed in secret; each day disclosed the evil worked by them and the disastrous traces of their passage. An inveterate hatred of the existing order, a determination to overthrow it at any sacrifice, were still to be found in the ranks of a minority which, though vanquished, was not submissive. Respect for the laws was undermined, the character of the sovereign of their choice was unceasingly assailed, his life was hourly threatened, and society since 1830, in the entire absence of all foreign danger and menace, had exhibited nothing more than a protracted revolutionary crisis. For meeting these calamities the minister proposed a series of severe and arbitrary laws for the prevention and punishment of state crimes and attempts at revolution. The first of these laws was directed wholly against the press, of the dangerous fanaticism and profound immorality of which the duke complained in strong terms, though he did not expressly identify any part of the press with Fieschi's attempt. M. Persil, the minister of justice, went farther than the duke and frankly avowed that the government was resolved that neither a republican nor Carlist press should exist, for the existence of such a press was incompatible with the very principle of the government. Three bills were introduced, and the following are the important clauses of that directed against the press, and which at once annihilates all free printing:—Art. 1. Any

one found guilty of an offence against the person of the king, by any mode of publication whatever, to be punished with imprisonment and fine of from 400*l.* to 2000*l.* 2. For ridiculing the person or authority of the king, from six months to five years in prison—fine 20*l.* to 400*l.* The offender moreover to be deprived of the whole or part of the civil rights mentioned in article 42 of the penal code, for the entire duration of his penalty, and for a term equal to that of the imprisonment to which he may have been condemned. The rights hereby suspended are the rights of electing or being elected, the right of holding any public or administrative office, of serving as a juryman, of giving evidence in a court of justice, of acting as tutor or curator to minors. 3. For mentioning or even alluding to the name of the king in any disquisition upon the acts of government, imprisonment from one month to a year, and a fine of from 20*l.* to 200*l.* 4. To reflect in writing upon the form and principle of the king's government, or to put forth any direct or indirect provocation to change them, is high treason, to be punished by detention (unlimited) and fine of from 400*l.* to 2000*l.* 5. Whosoever shall publicly avow himself a republican, or suggest a wish, hope, or threat, that the government ought to assume that form, to be imprisoned from six months to five years, and fined from 20*l.* to 400*l.* 6. Similar denunciations against all who profess themselves Carlists. 7. A journal convicted twice to be fined doubly, and even four times the amount for every succeeding offence. 8. Any editor opening subscriptions to pay off a FINE, to be imprisoned for that offence from one month to one year, and fined from 20*l.* to 200*l.* 9. Forbids publishing the names of jurors, either before or after political trials. 10. Every *gerant*, or responsible editor, must sign each number of his paper. 11. Refusing to insert government contradictions of statements (being previously paid)—imprisonment one month to a year, and fine from 20*l.* to 200*l.* 12. Refusing to disclose the name of the author of any inculpatated article, imprisonment for that offence alone, from a month to a year, and fine from 40*l.* to 200*l.* 14. No engraving, drawing, lithographic print, or emblem of any description, to be published, exposed, or sold, without the licence, in Paris, of the minister of the interior, and in the departments of the prefect—fine from 4*l.* to 40*l.* and imprisonment. 15th and 16th Articles prohibit, under like punishments, the establishment of a theatre, or the performance of any theatrical piece, without licence from the same authorities. Such are the main enactments of this French gagging



*bill.* There are 21 more articles, chiefly of a technical nature, but some of them are devised to give the law-officers of the crown an advantage over the defendant, and narrow the right of appeal to the Court of Cassation. The *second* bill attacks trial by jury. By the existing law, a verdict of guilty could not be returned, unless two-thirds of the jury, eight out of twelve, concurred in it. The new bill provides that an absolute majority, seven to five, is sufficient, and, to protect the jurors from popular influence, allows them to vote *by ballot*. The same bill gives an arbitrary power of imprisonment in any place not in the continental territory of the kingdom; under which a Parisian editor might be punished with incarceration in a French West India island, or in a dungeon on the coast of Africa. The *third* bill makes alterations in the proceedings of the courts of assize. It empowers the minister of justice to form as many of them as may be necessary for proceeding simultaneously against accused parties, and is equivalent to our special commission issued in public emergencies. It also prescribes the course to be adopted by the tribunals in the treatment of contumacious prisoners who refuse to plead, misconduct themselves, or insult the court, as in the recent political trials (*May 5*). These tremendous bills met with a warm, but not successful, opposition in either chamber. The first bill, carried by a majority, in the deputies, of 224 to 129, was that relating to jury-trial. Its chief opponent was M. Arago, the mathematician, who tried to demonstrate arithmetically that there was less liability of error when unanimity or a large majority was essential to a criminal verdict. He argued thus:—"The judgment of man is but a probability, and probabilities are determined by number. If a verdict is resolved upon by ten men out of twelve, there is a greater probability that it will be a just verdict than if it had been pronounced by seven in twelve. The degree of certainty in a judgment is in direct proportion to the number of judges who have delivered it." The mode of secret voting was left to be regulated by a royal ordinance. The assize bill was carried by a still larger majority than the jury bill. The bill against the liberty of the press was most pertinaciously resisted, and MM. Dupin and Royer Collard—the last, considered the father of the doctrinaire ministry, by whom it had been introduced—strenuously condemned some of its clauses. That rendering offences of the press, like offences against the state, cognizable by the chamber of peers—itsself, a one-sided political tribunal—was eloquent-

ly, but unavailingly, denounced. In one respect, the press bill was made more severe. Under the existing law, the cautionary deposit from a daily newspaper, published in Paris, is 2000*l.* This was raised to 4000*l.*, with reductions to the provincial journals proportioned to their distance from the capital; and an amount of security was required, to meet costs and damages in prosecutions, not easily obtained by literary or political speculators in France. All the new laws had passed through their different stages early in September. The press bill was carried in the peers on the 9th, as brought from the deputies, by a majority of 101 to 20. On the 11th the chambers were prorogued, and, as a suitable auxiliary to their proceedings, there appeared at the same time a royal ordinance, creating thirty new peers, all of them, with hardly an exception, dependant on the government. The destruction of the constitutional charter, which Charles X. was hurled from the throne for attempting, Louis Philip, under more favourable circumstances, triumphantly consummated, almost without eliciting a single popular expression of disapproval. Some petitions were got up in the departments against the press law, but, generally speaking, the French evinced either total indifference or lukewarm zeal against this arbitrary inroad on their lately conquered liberties. In Paris this apathy was decidedly more obvious than in the country, and the citizens, shrugging up their shoulders, sought amusement in their political humiliation, by giving a name to the new code of laws derived from the criminal in whom they ostensibly originated, calling them *les lois Fieschi*!

*Aug. 11.* Belgium chambers met. By the new elections of one half the deputies, which took place in June, the liberals had rather gained on the ministerialists. Their deliberations were chiefly directed to the protecting the country from becoming the uncontrolled receptacle of political agitators from France and Germany, by an alien act, and the cotton manufactures, by means of higher prohibitory duties. The latter was opposed, as being likely to call forth retaliatory measures from France, Switzerland, and Prussia. But the scheme of imposing higher duties, as well as that for establishing a control over foreigners, were both adopted by the legislature.

14. Mr. Spring Rice made his annual financial statement. Having given an account of the receipts and expenditure of the past year, he calculated that, after paying the interest of the West India loan, no greater surplus than from 150,000*l.* to 200,000*l.* could be safely counted upon for the year for which provision had been

made. He, therefore, could not venture to propose any further repeal of taxation than a reduction of certain of the duties on glass and on spirit licences.

19. Colonel Fairman, secretary to the Orange society, being brought to the bar of the commons, was informed by the speaker that he was bound to produce to a committee of the house the correspondence-book in his possession, which the committee had required of him. The subject was resumed on the 20th, and, the colonel persisting in his refusal, the speaker issued a warrant for his apprehension, the execution of which the colonel defeated by absconding. Long discussions ensued on the right of the commons to search for papers in the possession of private individuals.

Sept. 5. A dinner given to lord Auckland, at the Albion tavern, by the directors of the East India Company, previously to his lordship setting out for India as governor-general.

8. A musical festival commenced at York, which was continued for several successive days. Among the most distinguished of the visitors on this occasion were the duchess of Kent, princess Victoria, duke and duchess of Northumberland, earls Cawdor, Fitzwilliam, lords Milton and Morpeth.

10. Captain Back and his companions arrived at Liverpool, from their perilous Arctic land expedition. The gallant officer and his companions visited the Great Fish river, and examined its source to the Polar Seas.

A dinner given to captain Hindmarsh at the Albion Tavern, as the governor of the newly-founded colony of South Australia. Colonel Torrens in the chair.

10. PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.—The king came in person to prorogue parliament after a toilsome and unusually protracted session. The great legislative performance of the year was the reform of the English municipal corporations, of which a notice has been already given. There were other statutes passed, effecting salutary amendments and of great national importance. Among these, were the acts framed by sir James Graham for the improvement of the naval code, and thereby increasing our naval power; first, by an act for amending and consolidating the laws relative to merchant-seamen, and for establishing a *registry* of all the men engaged in the merchant service; and secondly by an act, the object of which is to encourage the *voluntary enlistment* of seamen into the royal navy, by limiting the period of service to five years; unless in case of special emergency, when they may be detained six months longer, with one-fourth increase

of pay. Seamen are allowed to provide substitutes, and are entitled to certificates of protection for two years, at the expiration of their terms of service. While it was thought a hazardous experiment to abolish the prerogative right of naval impressment, it is expected that the exercise of this power will seldom be requisite except on sudden and pressing occasions, under the inducements offered voluntarily to enter the king's service.

Our antiquated *patent laws* had long been a subject of complaint, and an obstacle to the promulgation of useful discoveries and inventions. An act was framed and passed, under the auspices of lord Brougham, for removing some of their more obvious and glaring defects. One grievance of the old system was the destruction of all right to a patent, which resulted from an inadvertent claim put in to any part of an invention that might not actually be new, although that circumstance should be unknown to the inventor; and even although the part claimed should be a small and unessential portion of the new invention. This defect is obviated, and a patentee who finds he has been anticipated in some portion of his invention may disclaim that portion, and still retain his exclusive privilege in the remainder. If a patentee have reproduced some old invention, believing himself to be the inventor, a power is vested in the crown to continue the patent to the patentee, when it appears that the invention had not been publicly and generally used. A patentee is protected from vexatious actions questioning the validity of his patent, the certificate of the judge who tried one action operating as a bar to future suits. Lastly an important advantage is given by the power vested in the crown, of extending, on the recommendation of the privy council, the term of a patent from fourteen to twenty-one years. Under the old law a valuable patent often expired just about the time the difficulties attending its first introduction had been surmounted, and it was beginning to be profitable to the inventor. This was the case with the improvements of Watt on the steam-engine, which, from prejudice and other causes, were hardly in general use when his exclusive privilege had ceased.

Other legislative measures carried during the session were the following:—

Limitation of the duration of the poll to one day, in borough elections, in England and Scotland.

Establishing a copyright in lectures.

Abolishing in Scotland imprisonment for debt for small sums.



Consolidating offices of receiver-general and comptroller in the stamp-duties, with the like offices in the land and assessed taxes.

Amending the highway laws.

Empowering the substitution of declarations in lieu of oaths, in the Treasury, in the universities of Oxford and Cambridge, and in the bank of England.

Facilitates intercourse with foreign parts by regulating the postage of letters.

Regulates the conveyance of colonial passengers.

Death-punishment abolished for letter-stealing and sacrilege.

Linen and hempen manufacture of Ireland regulated.

Prevents vexatious removal of indictments into the court of King's Bench, and extends provisions for taking bail in cases of felony.

Inspectors of prisons appointed, and greater uniformity of practice introduced in the prison regulations of England and Wales.

Statutes for the enforcement of uniformity in weights and measures consolidated and improved.

The number of private bills that received the royal assent was 160, namely, 4 agriculture; 3 companies; 42 improvements of towns and districts; 33 roads; 18 railways; 4 canals; 1 river; 10 navigation; 44 private regulation. The private bills passed exceeded those of 1834 by eighteen.

#### REFORM OF THE HOUSE OF LORDS.—

The alterations made by the lords in the municipal corporations bill, their refusal to pass the Irish church bill with the appropriation clause, their rejection of the Dublin police and other bills that had passed the commons, rendered them an object of pointed attack by the radical or movement party. Experience during the last two years, it was contended, had amply shown the necessity of reform, and of assimilating the upper to the lower house in spirit, practice, and constitution. The subject was agitated by the public press, discussed at public meetings, and, towards the close of the parliamentary session, even in the house of commons. On the occasion of presenting one of several petitions that had been got up for a reform of the lords' house, Mr. Roebuck intimated his intention next session of moving to bring in a bill for taking away the *veto* possessed by the lords on all measures of legislation, and substituting for it a suspensive power; so that, if a bill rejected by the lords should pass the commons a second time, and

receive the royal assent, it might become law without the concurrence of the peers. Mr. Rippon gave notice of a motion to remove the bishops from the legislature, and Mr. Hume indignantly denounced the ceremonial observances which prevailed between the two houses. At a conference the members of the commons are obliged to stand with their hats off, while the peers are covered and seated. The whole proceeding on such occasions is seldom more than the exchange of two pieces of paper, oral discussion not being permitted. It was, he said, a perfect mockery, like everything else connected with the other house. On the rising of parliament, Mr. O'Connell set forth on a mission to propagate reform doctrines among the presbyterians of Scotland. He received dinners at Manchester, Newcastle, Edinburgh, and Glasgow, and in eloquent and vehement harangues denounced the hereditary legislators as the great obstructives of wholesome legislation. He carefully guarded himself, however, against being considered the advocate of one chamber of legislation: he contended for the reform, not the abolition, of the lords. His popularity, and the fascinations of his oratory, attracted everywhere a numerous audience; but generally the middle classes kept aloof, and seemed not prepared to countenance his project for converting the peerage into an elective assembly.

Sept. 14. M. Mendizabal authorised by the queen-regent of Spain to form a cabinet. Much was anticipated from the appointment of the new prime minister, who enjoyed a reputation in Spain and Portugal for great energy and firmness amidst difficulties and dangers; and to him Spain looked to put a stop to the progress of anarchy. Mendizabal was well known in London, where he had latterly resided, as the financial agent of Portugal, and had essentially contributed to the establishment of the constitutional government of Donna Maria in that kingdom. He proposed to give a more liberal character to the regent's government, and to interest the masses in its support by a new electoral law, and giving greater liberty to the press.

Oct. 1. NEW CONSTITUTION OF DENMARK.—An unexpected change has taken place in the government of this kingdom. From the middle of the 17th century Denmark had been governed by a system of absolute power, voluntarily established by the population itself. She had possessed her estates, like the other communities of the north, and her commoners formed a constituent part of these estates. Irritated by the insolence, and desirous to ensure protection against the oppressions, of the

nobility, the commons joined the crown in 1660, and formally abrogated the estates, placing all power in the hands of the king. Since that time the Danes had been governed by an absolute monarch, and so governed that they had evinced no desire for any change in their institutions. In the course of the present year the king voluntarily created a representative body, under the name of the royal council, which assembled for the first time at Copenhagen on the 1st inst. The royal commissioner, in his opening address, commented on the new constitution that had been granted. His majesty had ordained that certain men, freely chosen by their fellow-subjects, should assemble at stated periods in order to deliberate on the interests of the country, preparatory to the framing of the royal decrees relative to those interests. The propriety of calling to such deliberations none but men independent in circumstances, and whose interests attach them to the principle of public order, induced the king to make landed property the basis of eligibility. The electoral system is alleged to rest on a broader basis than in some other countries reckoned constitutional. Leaseholders are qualified to vote for members of the council, and are even qualified to be chosen representatives. The object of the landed qualification is to produce a rural representation that may counterbalance that of the cities. The deputies are chosen by direct election, contrary to the practice of France and Spain, where the primitive electors name other electors, who ultimately elect the representatives. The representative chamber freely elects its president or speaker. Such are the leading points in the *magna charta* that the Danish monarch has vouchsafed to his subjects, and which is declared to have been an unsolicited and spontaneous emanation of the royal will. Denmark has thus passed without a struggle from an arbitrary to a constitutional monarchy, and exhibited in her history the singular spectacle of a voluntary surrender of her liberties to the sovereign, who, after holding them 175 years, with the entire satisfaction of all parties, again restored unasked the boon to the people.

4. This day, though Sunday, was pretty generally celebrated over the country, in the different churches and chapels, as a centenary of the Reformation, the printing of the first English Bible (that of bishop Coverdale) having, as appears from the colophon, been finished on October 4, 1535.

11. Their majesties, attended by a party, visited Greenwich, being the anniversary of the battle of Camperdown. A monument by Chantrey, erected under the orders

of the king, to the memory of sir R. G. Keats, formerly governor of Greenwich Hospital, was exposed to public view for the first time.

21. The first stone of the city of London school, Cheapside, on the site of Honey-lane market, was laid by lord Brougham, in the presence of the committee appointed by the common-council to superintend the institution, and the officers of the corporation.

27. Earl Gosford, appointed governor-in-chief of Canada, and head of the commission sent out by the British government to investigate and redress the grievances complained of by the Canadians, opened the parliament of Lower Canada with a speech, in which he assured the members of his anxiety to compose, if possible, the differences by which the colony had been for some time agitated. Upon those that belonged merely to the administrative practice of the Government such assurances were given as would probably, if the controversy had been confined to these, be entirely satisfactory. In regard to the constitutional changes demanded by the popular party, the language employed by his excellency was not so definite.

The Irish government, in answer to many applications, have decided that the military or police shall not be permitted to aid in the collection of tithes; nor be called out in any case of the enforcement of civil rights by distress, unless their presence be rendered necessary by actual riot.

31. There appeared in the *Times* of to-day a correspondence that had taken place between Mr. sheriff Raphael and Mr. O'Connell, relative to the terms of a pecuniary engagement, by which the former, through the influence of the latter, had been returned to parliament for the county of Carlow, but had been unseated upon a petition.

The grand review at Kalisch this month, on which point troops had been so long concentrating, and which, according to some, was to lead to an almost general continental war, has passed over as a splendid pageantry; and so has the conference of the emperors of Russia and Austria and the king of Prussia at Toplitz.

REGISTRATION COURTS.—The public attention during the month has been chiefly occupied with the proceedings of these courts, which have been held throughout the country for the annual revision of the registration lists of electors. This year the contest of parties has been waged on this arena with much more zealous effort and more systematic tactics than on any former occasion. The objections that have been made to names in the overseers' lists



have been unusually numerous, and the decisions of the barristers have accordingly been watched in all quarters, as furnishing important indications in regard to the results of the ultimate struggle at the polling-booths, whenever that may come. As usual, in their public organs, both the friends of the ministry and their opponents profess to have been the gainers—each party being led to that conclusion as much by their wishes and hopes as by anything else, and at all events holding it good policy to keep up the spirits of their adherents by such representations. The prorogation of parliament, and the dispersion of public men over the country after their seven months' close application in the metropolis, have also been taken advantage of, for the getting up of numerous provincial displays in the way of *dinner-eating* and *speech-making*. The tone which this kind of convivial agitation has taken indicates anything rather than an approximation of the two great contending parties in the state.

*Nov. 10.* A public dinner given to lord John Russell, at Bristol, on which occasion a piece of plate, which had been purchased by subscriptions of a sixpence from each person was presented. Lords Seagrave and Ebrington, and Mr. Moore, the poet, were present, and addressed the meeting.

11. The new commissioners of charities appointed under 5 and 6 Wm. 4. c. 71, held their first meeting in Great George-street, lord Brougham (chief commissioner) in the chair. It is expected that this commission will terminate an inquiry which has been in progress since 1818, and has produced upwards of thirty folio volumes of reports. The total annual income of the public charities already investigated appears, from a parliamentary return of this year, to amount to 748,178*l.* exclusive of the charities under the chartered companies of London applicable to education and other purposes.

13. Donna Maria, queen of Portugal, has achieved something new in politics. She has dismissed and recalled a ministry all in one day! Unable to form a new administration, she was compelled to accept the services of her former advisers, with Saldanha at their head. In a week after, Saldanha was a second time dismissed, and marquis Loulé appointed prime minister. The change was satisfactory to the populace and the national guard. Both in Portugal and Spain the ultra-liberal party is on the advance.

16. Isabella, queen-regent of Spain, opened the cortes in a speech, in which she alluded to her choice of M. Mendizabal as prime minister, and expressed her

confident expectation that, by the exertions and policy of the new government, the civil war of Spain would be put an end to and peace restored to that distracted country. There is a persuasion abroad that this expectation will be realized; the armies under Mina and other Queenite generals have been reinforced. In the choice of a president, however, in the lower house, the Mendizabal ministry was defeated, which indicates jealousy or want of confidence in the new premier.

27. Hatfield House, the seat of the marquis of Salisbury, nearly destroyed by fire. The dowager marchioness of Salisbury, in whose room the fire originated, perished in the flames. She was upwards of 84 years old, and her head-dress is supposed to have caught fire while reading or writing.

INDEPENDENCE OF TEXAS.—The inhabitants of Texas, aided by adventurers from New Orleans, have declared themselves independent of the government of Mexico. In their declaration they accuse general Santa Anna and other military chiefs of having overthrown, by force of arms, the federal institutions of Mexico, and dissolved the social compact which existed between Texas and the other members of the Mexican confederacy.

*Dec. 2.* A meeting of the proprietors of the London University was held, lord Brougham in the chair, to consider the propositions of government respecting the grant of a charter. The plan proposed is, to incorporate the university as a college, to grant similar charters of incorporation to such other educational bodies as may hereafter be established in the metropolis, and to establish, by charter, a board of men eminent in literature and science to perform the functions of examiners, and who will be empowered to grant degrees (except degrees in divinity) to candidates educated at such chartered colleges; the board to be termed "The University of London." After a debate of some length, resolutions were unanimously passed approving of the government propositions.

3. A meeting was held at the Freemasons' Tavern for the purpose of raising funds for the support of such clergymen of the established church in Ireland as are distressed by the non-payment of their tithes. The archbishop of Canterbury was in the chair. The king sent a donation of 500*l.*, and nearly 12,000*l.* were stated by the bishop of London to have been subscribed up to the close of the meeting.

6. Marshal Clausel, governor of Algiers, accompanied by the duke of Orleans, mastered the town of Mascara, which they burned and razed to the ground. Before

effecting this entrance, they had twice to give battle to Abd el Kader and his Arabs, who fought with determined bravery, and were routed only through the superiority of the French artillery.

16. Great fire in New York. The number of buildings destroyed is 674, comprising public edifices and ranges of spacious and valuable warehouses. An immense number of mercantile firms have been dislodged, and 2000 persons thrown out of employment. The property destroyed is valued at 20 millions of dollars. The fire burned over an area of 52 acres, densely built upon, and exclusively devoted to commercial pursuits. Active measures have been adopted by congress and the banks, by loans, and an extension of the private credit of the merchants, to alleviate the calamity.

17. The London court of aldermen having refused to admit sheriff Solomons of their number, as alderman of Aldgate, on the ground that he had refused to subscribe the usual declaration "on the true faith of a Christian" his election was set aside, and Mr. Humphreys, M.P., was chosen. Mr. Solomons is of the Hebrew persuasion.

25. First election of the town-councils under the municipal corporations act. The result has been a general ejection of the old boroughmonger voters, and the substitution of members of the liberal party. In a few of the smaller boroughs a majority of conservatives has been chosen; but in all the great towns, with scarcely an exception, the reformers have obtained an ascendancy, which places the management of affairs entirely in their hands. On the declaration, next day, of the election of the new councillors, the existing common councils, mayors, and aldermen, who for two centuries had exercised local power and patronage, went out of office, and their duties and functions for ever ceased.

29. French parliament opened by the king. Regret was expressed that the dispute relative to the American claim (see p. 947) had not yet been settled; but Britain had offered to mediate between France and the United States. M. Dupin was re-elected president of the chamber. The address on the king's speech was carried in the deputies by a majority of 246 against 67.

**LIGHTHOUSES.**—The management of lighthouses, and the dues levied on British shipping for their maintenance, were reported upon last session by a committee of the house of commons. It appears that there are in all 219 lights in the United Kingdom, namely 195 public general lights on land, and 17 floating lights; 93 local or

harbour lights on land, and 4 floating lights. Of 134 public general lighthouses, 55 are held by the Trinity House, 14 by private individuals, 25 by commissioners of northern lighthouses, and 40 by commissioners of the ballast board, Ireland. The gross dues collected on these 134 lighthouses amount to 240,304*l.*, charges of collection to 22,135*l.*, expense of maintenance to 74,832*l.*, leaving a surplus revenue of 142,436*l.*

**IRISH CHURCH.**—The following distribution of the population of Ireland in 1834, in respect of religion, is derived, by Mr. Hamilton (one of the commissioners), from the first report of the Commissioners of Ecclesiastical Inquiry:—

Members of the Established Church . . . . .	852,064
Roman Catholics . . . . .	6,427,712
Presbyterians . . . . .	642,356
Other Protestant Dissenters . . . . .	21,808

Total population in parishes . 7,943,940

**STATE OF FRANCE.**—Events in this country, the principal of which have been mentioned, possessed, in the present year, unusual interest. After five years of perturbation, amounting almost to anarchy—after a vain struggle to establish a liberty incompatible with human passions or existing intelligence—France has again been compelled to seek tranquillity, if not contentment, under the ascendancy of despotic powers. Arbitrary punishments, secret and arbitrary tribunals without appeal, have been substituted in place of a fixed, open, and impartial judicial administration. The liberty of the press, by the able exercise of which the throne of the elder Bourbon had been overturned, and the authority of Louis Philip and his doctrinaire supporters established, has been extinguished by the statesmen who most profited by its powerful agency, as inconsistent with civil peace and the stability of the new government. The problem of governing mankind by uniform and just principles seems solved, and its impracticability admitted. For theory, French statesmen have substituted the convictions of experience. Enlightened by the past, they no longer appeal to an abstract justice, or to its coherence with a preconceived system for the vindication of their policy, but to its practical effects on the public welfare. At the commencement of the session of 1835 ministers told the chambers to look for their system in the consequences it had evolved,—prosperity at home, and peace, respect, and influence abroad. "If any man," said M. Thiers, the minister of the interior, "had predicted, in July, 1830, a revolution will take



place—it will subvert a throne—and yet for four years not a scaffold will be erected—for four years afterwards the country will be in security, and not only in the enjoyment of peace, but surrounded with a cordon of constitutional states—tranquillity will prevail throughout Europe—the national prosperity superior to anything known under the Restoration, after fifteen years of peace—instead of national bankruptcy, the deficiency in the revenue caused by the Restoration gradually reduced;—had such language been held, would it have been credited? And yet these results were not imaginary; they were real and admitted of incontestable proof. In Switzerland, aristocratic government had been replaced by popular government. The hostile kingdom of the Netherlands had been dissolved. The monkish government of Ferdinand of Spain had been replaced by a constitutional monarchy. Don Miguel had been replaced on the throne of Portugal by Donna Maria. How had these results been accomplished without a war, and with the consent of Europe?—by the wisdom of the *ministerial system*?—which, as the minister might have been told, was no system at all, but a course of expediency guided by shifting circumstances. The internal prosperity of France, which, in the midst of all her political changes and conflicts, had never paused since the general peace of 1815, was an undoubted fact. The annual deficiency in her revenue, which in 1829 amounted to 53,000,000 of francs, had been reduced to 21,000,000, and in 1838 was expected to disappear altogether. (*Ann. Reg.* lxxvii, 389.) Notwithstanding this result, she still failed to present a high example of industrial intelligence or legislative wisdom. She was still a country of anomalies, of monopolies and civil inequalities. Her repugnance to a free and unrestricted commercial intercourse with foreigners was hardly less narrow and bigoted than that of the Chinese. All attempts effectually to reform her custom-house tariff, by which her native products might be freely exchanged for those of other nations on terms of mutual benefit, had been defeated, either from the predominance of class interests, or the limited information of her merchants. The government itself, like the rapacious pasha of Egypt, set the example, and was the chief monopolist of the community. It was the sole and exclusive salesman of tobacco to the people. All the tobacco grown in France is bought exclusively and without competition by the government, at its own remunerative price, and sold at its own arbitrary price to the consumer. This monopoly was introduced by Napo-

leon, who, in his wild crusade against British commerce, sought to render France independent of external products. It has been repeatedly assailed by the opposition, but the exclusive privilege is too profitable to be hastily abandoned. Under the existing law the monopoly would have expired, Jan. 1, 1837, had not ministers in 1835 introduced a bill to continue it five years longer. The finance minister, who had been its enemy when not in office, defended the proposal, principally on the ground that the monopoly yields a yearly revenue of 2,000,000*l.*, which could not be replaced without other imposts that would fall heavily on the country. Several ministerial deputies opposed the measure, which was only carried by a small majority. The representative, no less than the commercial system of France, is unjust and exclusive, and a cry has been raised, that must ultimately command attention, for *parliamentary reform*. Compared with the wealth and population of the kingdom, the electoral body is too limited in numbers to embody, and proportionately sustain in the legislature, all interests. Previous to the revolution of 1830 the elective franchise was confined to individuals paying an annual amount of contribution of 300 francs. (1*l.*) This qualification, applied to a population of 32 millions, yielded a number of electors which never fell below 80,000, and never exceeded 100,000. In modifying the charter after the expulsion of Charles X., the qualification was reduced to 200 francs, or 8*l.* In consequence of this reduction, the number of electors rose to 280,000. Even this number appears an inadequate guarantee of elective independence, in so populous, rich, and flourishing a community; but it has been since reduced to 180,000, by the operation of the law of inheritance—a cause of diminution that operates simultaneously with human mortality. By this law, which renders compulsory the equal partition of a man's landed estate among his children, the division of property is incessantly going on. The land-tax averages 7½ per cent. An estate of about 2600 francs a-year giving a qualification for the land-tax amounts to 200 francs. On the death of the proprietor, however, unless he leaves only one child, the qualification is at an end, for, when divided even among two, each pays only 100 francs. Thus individuals are constantly being thrown, as it were, out of the pale of the constitution. Some idea may be formed of the effect of this process, when it is considered that no fewer than 10,200,000 distinct properties in land were registered as paying land-tax. Of the whole number there were not 1000 that paid 5000 francs,

affording decisive evidence of the absence of great territorial accumulation. The diminutive number of electors has affected the independence of the representative chamber. With only 180,000 electors the electoral colleges have become, like the nomination boroughs of England before the passing of the REFORM ACT, select bodies extremely susceptible of private, and still more of government influence. The existing chamber, elected in 1834, contained 200 members who were government functionaries, two-thirds of them being removable at pleasure; while the remaining third served not indeed under the fear of dismissal, but the hope of promotion. It is impossible this restriction of the franchise can pass unchallenged in a country still enamoured with republican institutions, and especially under a dynasty deriving its elevation from the popular suffrages. Accordingly in the late session numerous petitions were presented praying for reform, but they were not agreed in the objects of their prayers; and, moreover, seemed to speak the sentiments of a party, whose views went further than a fair and efficient representation. Some of them prayed for direct election and universal suffrage; others for indirect election, but universal suffrage, in the primary electors; others for the abolition of the money qualification of the members; and others for the payment of wages to the deputies. The committee, to whom the petitions had been referred, unanimously proposed to the chamber to put them aside by passing to the order of the day, on the ground that France possessed too many elements of discord to allow of the electoral system being modified without danger. In this conclusion they are supported by the acquiescence of the middle ranks, who, embodied in the national guard, constitute the strength and safeguard of the community. Even the arbitrary laws of last summer (see *Aug.* 4) were so opportunely introduced, and so plausibly justified, that they passed without rousing any manifestation of general dislike. The industrious and profit-loving *Bourgeois* have certainly had changes enough—they want peace at home and abroad, and to be allowed to earn and eat their bread in tranquillity. Alarmed and wearied by the never-ending *émeutes*, and often sanguinary broils of Paris and Lyons, they are willing to purchase quiet and security at the expense of a democratic liberty, which, if not nominal and anarchical, is transitory, as the successive tyrannies of Robespierre and Buonaparte, based on popular ignorance and extravagance, have too painfully attested. The closing year, however, though

disastrous, has not been all loss and no gain to constitutional freedom. A bill passed during the session to fix and regulate *ministerial responsibility*. It provides that no act emanating from the king in his royal capacity can be executed except under the responsibility of a minister, and whoever puts such an act in execution when not countersigned by a minister, is personally responsible. Each minister is made personally responsible for the acts countersigned by him, and all of them are made collectively responsible for the general measures of government in which they have taken a part. Thus a guarantee of official conduct is secured, that only vaguely or constructively exists in the British constitution.

GERMANY.—In this country has risen a new school of reformers in politics, literature, and morals. They are poets and novelists, no less than publicists. Under the appellation of “Young Germany,” or “Young Literature,” they advocate the supremacy of reason to custom, of talent to hereditary privileges. The chief promulgators of these opinions have already become the victims of persecution, and compelled to seek refuge in France and Belgium. Their writings were denounced by a decree of the diet, which declared, that their manifest tendency was “to destroy in the most audacious manner the Christian religion, degrade the actual relations of society, and extinguish all education and morality.” All the governments, therefore, engaged to enforce in their full rigour the laws of the different states against the authors and publishers of such works, and to prevent their circulation by sale, circulating libraries, or otherwise. The decree set forth by name the leading authors of the obnoxious doctrines, namely, Heine, Gutzkow, Laube, Mundt, and Wienburg.

LITERATURE—RUSSIA.—According to a report from the board of censors for foreign publications, 300,000 volumes of books in foreign languages were imported into the Russian dominions during the year 1834; this is nearly 29,000 more than in the year preceding. There appeared under the cognizance of the board of censors for the home department 728 original works, and 116 translations, which give a total of 844 new publications in the Russian language. The same board sanctioned the appearance of 48 newspapers. Last year the ministry of public instruction sanctioned the printing of 113,200 copies of school-books of various descriptions; and in the same interval 94 additional public schools, including the university of St. Vladimir, at Kief, were opened.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.—After repeat-



ed legislative attempts, the arduous undertaking of establishing an invariable and uniform standard of weights and measures throughout the United Kingdom, appeared in the present year to be accomplished. In 1824 an *imperial* standard yard, pound, gallon, and bushel were fixed, and the principle laid down on which they might be renewed if lost or destroyed. The old wine-gallon of 231 cubic inches; the ale and beer-gallon, 282 inches; the old corn-gallon, 268 $\frac{1}{4}$  inches, are abolished; and the imperial gallon, of rather more than 277 $\frac{1}{4}$  cubic inches, and holding ten pounds avoirdupois weight of distilled water weighed in air at 62 degrees of Fahrenheit, the barometer being at 30 inches, is substituted. The act commenced Jan. 1, 1826, but, though useful in gradually accustoming the public to a new system, it failed, during the nine years of its operation, to effect general uniformity in practice. This has been enforced by the statutes of 1834 and 1835, and all local weights and measures, other than that of the imperial standard, are prohibited. The custom of selling goods by *heaped measure*; that is, by heaping them up in the form of a cone above the brim, is prohibited; and they must now be sold by the bushel filled to the level of the brim, or by weight; coals must be sold by weight only. The previously uncertain quantity of a *stone*, is fixed at 14 pounds, and eight stone the hundred weight. All articles must be sold by the imperial pound except gold, silver, platina, or precious stones, which may be sold by troy weight. Weights must be made of brass or iron; the use of lead, pewter, or other soft metal, being prohibited, because of the facility they afford for fraud, and the diminution they speedily undergo from abrasion. One omission has been pointed out in the present measure, in its not having fixed the ratio between the diameter and depth of the bushel. A shallow bushel, of equal cubic capacity with a deeper, holds less corn or other article that lies more or less close towards the bottom, according to the pressure of the column above.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—At Paris, M. Dupuytren, 57, the eloquent professor of surgery at the Hôtel Dieu. He left his daughter a fortune of nearly 7,000,000 of francs; 1,200,000 francs to found a professorship of medico-chirurgical pathology, and 300,000 francs for an asylum for twelve superannuated medical men. In the Regent's Park, Henry David Inglis, 40, author of several books of travels in Sweden, the Tyrol, Spain, and Ireland. Mr. Inglis was a native of Scotland, the only son of a barrister, and his maternal grandmother was the daughter of the cele-

brated colonel Gardiner, who fell at Preston Pans. At Dorchester, Richard Sharp, F.R.S., 76, a gentleman well known in the literary world as "Conversation Sharp." Though extensively engaged in commerce, in which he accumulated a large fortune, Mr. Sharp possessed a very correct taste in literature, and a small volume of Essays he left behind him are remarkable for sense and judgment. In St. George's fields, William Henry Ireland, better known as "Shakespeare Ireland," who was the author of several novels and a history of Napoleon, but the works that will longest preserve his memory are the celebrated forgeries of the bard of Avon. (See p. 597.) Captain Kater, 58, an able mathematician, who assisted colonel Lambton in his trigonometrical survey of India, and who co-operated in establishing the imperial standard of weights and measures. John Pitt, earl of Chatham, 80; son of the first and brother of the second William Pitt: the title and pension are extinct. Thomas Pringle, 46, secretary to the Anti-Slavery Society, and editor of *Blackwood's Magazine* during the first six months of its existence. At Clapham, Mrs. Elizabeth Cook, 94, widow of the celebrated circumnavigator. At his seat, Isle of Wight, John Nash, 83, architect of the pavilion at Brighton and of Buckingham Palace, and the planner of Regent-street and Regent's Park. In the last he had recourse to the system originated by Wood of Bath, of uniting several separate dwellings in a single façade, and is a favourable specimen of his abilities. At Dublin, Mrs. Hemans, a much-admired poetess, who first began to be generally known by her scattered lyrics, which appeared in the *New Monthly Magazine*, then under the direction of Campbell. William Smith, late M. P. for Norwich, 79, forty-six years in parliament, and the leading advocate of the dissenters. Dr. Pughe, 76, Welsh lexicographer, who translated Milton's "Paradise Lost" into the ancient British language. James Denison, 75, founder of the commercial travellers' society. Joseph Todd, late of Fore-street, 68; he commenced business as a haberdasher in 1793 with very small means, and retired in 1822 with a fortune of nearly a million sterling. In Fleet-street, Edward Troughton, 81, discoverer of an ingenious mode of graduating mathematical instruments, for which in 1809 he received the Copley medal. Henry O'Brien, 27, author of an ingenious dissertation on the Round Towers of Ireland. Michael Thomas Sadler, 58, a merchant of Leeds, who, in 1829, on the Newcastle interest in Newark, was returned to parliament, where he distinguished himself by

an eloquent oration against the catholic claims. Mr Sadler was educated at Rome, and intended for a learned profession. He was the author of a work on Ireland, and another, in which he tried to impugn the Malthusian principle of population. Dr. Brinkley, Bishop of Cloyne, 72, an able mathematician, who is supposed in 1814 to have discovered the parallax of the fixed stars. At Paris, signor Bellini, 29, composer of *I Puritani*, &c. At Paris, Don Telesforo de Trueba, 30, author of several dramas in French, Spanish, and English; and among them the popular farce of "Call again to-morrow." Trueba was also a contributor to the *Metropolitan Magazine* and other periodicals. At Edinburgh, Sir John Sinclair, 82, late cashier of the excise, and a voluminous writer on statistics and agriculture.

A.D. 1836. PROSPEROUS STATE OF THE KINGDOM.—At the close of the past and commencement of the present year, the United Kingdom exhibited unusual signs of internal contentment and general prosperity. With the exception of partial depression in agriculture, all the great branches of national industry were unusually prosperous. In the great clothing districts of Yorkshire and Lancashire the times were never known to be more favourable. In spite of the great development of the cotton-trade, it still continued to expand, and its utmost bounds seemed illimitable. It was the same with the woollen manufacture of Leeds and Huddersfield, the stuff manufacture of Bradford and Halifax, the linen manufacture of Barnsley and Knaresborough, the blanket and flannel manufactures of Dewsbury and Rochdale, they were all thriving. Even in the silk trade of Macclesfield, Coventry, and Spitalfields, there were no complaints; no more than in the hosiery and lace trades of Nottingham, Derby, and Leicester. The potteries of Staffordshire continued prosperous, and the iron trade, in all its branches, was unusually flourishing. While manufacturing industry was in a state of energetic activity in the interior of the kingdom, it is almost superfluous to remark, that the shipowners in the outports of London, Liverpool, Bristol, Glasgow, and Hull, were not quiescent. One fact testifies to the prosperousness of commerce and existence of mercantile confidence, namely, the low rate of interest. Although there had been during the last twelvemonth several demands on the resources of monied men, the funds maintained a steady buoyancy; and the numerous projects on foot for improving the great lines of travelling and conveyance, at once attested abundance of pecuniary means and a lively spirit of im-

provement. That the general prosperity rested on stable grounds, there were solid reasons for concluding. A spirit of enterprise was abroad, but not of wild speculation. Except the mania for railways, which raged in England in common with other nations, there was no other abroad; and the avidity with which shares were bought up in these undertakings, was justified by the actual success which had attended those of Liverpool and Manchester, Stockton and Darlington, Leeds and Selby. In 1824 the case was different; it was then pure castle-building; credit afforded unlimited means, and no project was too extravagant for support. At present, there was no want of commercial confidence, but it was a confidence indulged under a salutary reminiscence of former disasters. If anything could tend to its undue development, it was the state of the monetary system, which continued the most defective branch of industrial polity, and required unceasing watchfulness. It is as much a function of state to provide a safe and uniform currency, as a uniform standard of weights and measures, or a uniform and impartial course of judicial administration. None of the numerous provincial joint-stock banks of issue that had been established under an act of the last reign, (7 Geo. 4. c. 46,) appear to have a subscribed capital exceeding two millions, with a paid-up capital of half a million. For one bank with so large a capital, there were many who did not possess a capital of a quarter of that amount, and as they frequently extended into branches in various parts of the country, the liabilities and consequent danger of the parent bank were increased. One bank with a capital of 600,000*l.*, had nearly 40 branches in Bristol, Birmingham, Liverpool, Leeds, Manchester, Nottingham, and other places. In some banks, neither the amount of subscribed or paid-up capital was known, which carried on, nevertheless, extensive business and had numerous branches. The subject, in the ensuing session, drew the attention of parliament, and, at the instance of Mr. Clay, a committee of inquiry was appointed. Its investigations were not completed during the session, but enough was discovered to show the great irregularities and inconsistencies in the management of joint-stock banks; that they were not conducted on uniform and systematic principles; that the functions of the managing directors were not sufficiently defined and often irresponsibly exercised; and that, partly, from this cause and partly from the vague provisions of the partnership deeds, neither the interests of the shareholders nor of the public were adequately protected. In this



state of things, there was obviously cause for circumspection, though none, perhaps, for general alarm. One ground of confidence—at least, in the old banking firms of the kingdom,—is the better knowledge, which the disastrous experience of former years had afforded, of the principles which ought to regulate banking associations in their advances to individuals, and in their issues of paper money. The withdrawal of the small notes, too, is a guarantee against a popular, if not a commercial panic; and, as the obligation imposed on private bankers compels them to make periodical returns of their average circulation, timely notice is thereby afforded of the approach of the plague of over-issue, which the bank of England would be culpably remiss in not checking on the first symptom of a redundant currency. Upon the whole, much of the machinery, as well as the material of commercial and manufacturing prosperity, seemed safe and sound, and the natural result of lengthened peace at home and abroad, conjoined with a succession of the most favourable seasons. On the other hand there was, as before observed, complaints of AGRICULTURAL DISTRESS. Farmers and landlords looked at their diminished incomes, not *outgoings*; they thought of the great sums they received during the war, not of the great sums they paid. That there was general distress among them, it was difficult to believe. Relative distress will always subsist in agriculture; it is a condition inseparable from the cultivation of the soil. Farming will always be a poor trade. The inducements to invest capital in land are such, that the profits of husbandry will generally be depressed below the average profits of commerce and manufactures. This is not the only cause of depression. In England, where two-thirds of the land occupied are held by tenants-at-will, if a farmer's profits increase, his rent will be proportionably increased. So that, pressed on one side by the greater competition of capital in his business; and on the other, by the increasing exactions of his landlord, he can never enjoy for a lengthened period an exuberant state of prosperity. The partial distress of landlords, though it originates in different causes, is almost as inevitable as that of their tenants. In every European community (France only excepted), the landed interest is in a state of pecuniary involvement. Everywhere estates are incumbered with debts, mortgages, and settlements. This, however, is not because the revenues they yield are small, but because they are inordinate. It is men of moderate, not of large incomes that live within them. The former are compelled to practise economy,

to look after their affairs and live according to rule; the latter are regardless of these precautions. There are other peculiarities. Advances can always be obtained on real, not on chattel security. Hence land-owners are under great temptations to become *borrowers*:—add to this, the tenacity with which they seek to maintain the status of their order, by keeping up expenditure, and a key is afforded to their dilatoriness in adjusting themselves to altered circumstances. Time will probably alleviate most of the difficulties under which agriculture suffers. That they have not been generally ruinous the testimony of Mr. Charles Shaw Lefebvre, the chairman of the Agricultural Committee, which was appointed in the ensuing parliamentary session, satisfactorily established, and his opinion was corroborated by that of Messrs. Houghton, Scott, and other intelligent witnesses. That even rural industry has declined, is disproved by the broad fact that with a population annually increasing at the rate of a quarter of a million, the native produce of the country has been nearly adequate to the consumption of its inhabitants. The home produce has increased faster than the population; so that from the beginning of the century we have been becoming less dependent on foreign supplies. In the ten years from 1801 to 1810 the annual average import of wheat was 600,946 quarters; from 1811 to 1820, 458,578; from 1821 to 1830, 534,992; and in the five years from 1831 to 1835 inclusive the average import was only 398,509 quarters (*Porter's Progress of the Nation*, i. 146). During the last three years there has been hardly any importation of wheat from abroad, the markets have been supplied by wheat of English growth. The import of wheat from Ireland has increased, but not to such an extent as to affect the English grower. On an average of the three years ending January, 1833, the wheat imported from Ireland amounted to 553,274 quarters, and, on an average of the three years ending January, 1836, to 761,827 quarters; making an increase in the average supply of the last three years of only 208,553 quarters. In England the depression of agriculture has been chiefly caused by the low price of wheat; other produce has fetched good prices, and the remedy is a change of crops, the abandonment of the heavy soils, on which it cannot be raised at a remunerative price: this, aided by rural improvements, a commutation of tithe, a reduction in county and highway rates, an economical administration of the poor laws, and, above all, an adjustment of terms between landlord and farmer, holds out the best prospective remedies for agri-

culture. In these views many of the agriculturists begin to concur. Some of them have even lost faith in their favourite specific of corn-laws, and have discovered that agriculture cannot permanently thrive at the cost of manufactures, and that they must "wax and wane together." The currency *savans* have also begun to be discountenanced. A depreciation of money would not benefit the renting-farmer; it would only benefit those whose estates are charged with mortgages, and whose incumbrances concern only themselves. The days of partial legislation for the encouragement of industry, or rather monopoly, are past. All that any class can expect, or a wise legislature concede, is equality of public imposts—security—and an open market all over the world. Some of the landed interest espoused the notion, that the establishment of a *trade-union* might be favourable to their interests; but the scheme appears not to have been carried out. Like the trade-unions of humbler individuals, it would, probably, have proved a rope of sand and unproductive of beneficial results. Meanwhile, the low price of provisions, and abundance of employment, both in manufacturing and rural industry, have been extremely favourable to the industrious orders. With the exception of the hand-loom weavers, whose occupation has been superseded by the general introduction of the power-loom, the condition of those who live on wages was never, perhaps, more favourable; they never enjoyed in greater profusion the comforts and necessities of life in food, lodging, and clothing. That such is their general state, is evidenced by a diminution in crime, of poor-rates, and emigration, and an increase in those branches of the public revenue principally falling on articles of ordinary consumption. From the industrial, a short advertence may be made to the **POLITICAL ASPECTS** of 1836. In these the signs were not less auspicious. There had perhaps never been a period more opportune for social ameliorations. Not a plot, nor a cannonade—not a single disturbance within or without the kingdom. There seemed a growing confidence in the individuals composing the administration. They were mostly considered persons of plain, but steady purposes, exempted from the *égarements* of genius; the mercurial talent that had oppressed or embarrassed them, was either stranded or cast overboard, and had drifted to leeward; what remained, consisted of men of patriotic intentions, of useful but not splendid gifts; circumspect and anxious to proceed on the best information. Although versed in the general principles of political science, they felt the necessity of

shaping their measures to existing circumstances and clashing interests, and, moreover, were not so fettered by prejudice, as to reject amendments because they encroached on old associations and connexions. These were looked upon as the qualities chiefly needed. The pickaxe of reform having been struck into all the great fabrics of abuse,—what was most requisite, were steady and unflinching operatives to wheel away the rubbish. It followed that the changes in the original Whig Ministry, which at the time were considered to menace its efficiency and usefulness, had apparently, on trial, turned out improvements in its composition. Earl Grey had seemingly begun to feel alarm at the giant spirit he had evoked. He acted as though Democracy had done its work and ought to be stayed—hesitated—did nothing—and then took to flight. Lord Stanley and his party were bound up in an abstract proposition, when the country demanded a practical remedy for a practical grievance. The residue were considered better, for being more flexible and less self-dependent; they had to seek the co-operation of divers parties, and were ready to follow any onward impulse they might receive from a sufficiently audible and powerfully expressed public opinion. The most arduous of changes is a change in public sentiment. This difficulty had been overcome. The once ruling party that refused to admit the smallest amendment, on the pretext, that they could not trammel up its issues, had acknowledged the necessity of removing "proved abuses." With this concession, the Tories had abandoned the citadel of their strength. They had no longer ground on which an unflinching stand could be made; having admitted the principle, the limits of its application could not be prescribed.

*Jan. 1.* Queen of Portugal married by proxy to Prince Ferdinand Augustus, nephew of the reigning duke of Saxe-Cobourg, and of the king of the Belgians. By the marriage treaty, it is settled that the prince shall resign all his rights in Germany to his brothers and sisters; that he shall not assume the title of duke of Braganza till there is an heir to the throne, when he is to act as king of Portugal along with the queen; that, in the event of the queen's decease before the heir come of age, he shall be chosen king, as guardian to his successor, with an income of 35,000*l.* a-year

Sir Charles Pepys, master of the rolls, created a peer by the title of lord Cottenham, and receives the seals of office as lord chancellor. Henry Bickersteth, esq., the Chancery barrister, has succeeded to the rolls, and been called to the house of lords



with the title of baron Langdale. The great seal had been in commission since the resignation of sir R. Peel's ministry, and an impression was abroad that it had been reserved for lord Brougham as soon as certain objections to his re-appointment could be overcome.

Pensions granted by lord Melbourne to Mr. Banim, author of "Tales of the O'Hara Family," of 150*l.* a-year; and to Mr. B. Thorpe, the translator of Rask's Anglo-Saxon Grammar, of 100*l.* a-year. Lord Melbourne has directed 150*l.* to be paid out of the royal bounty fund to the widow of Mr. Hogg, the Ettrick Shepherd.

4. Riots at Barcelona, during which upwards of 100 Carlists were brutally murdered by the populace. Among the victims was the young colonel O'Donnell, whose corpse was shockingly mutilated.

5. Meeting of bankers, merchants, and shipowners of London, at the Mansion House, to consider the best means of promoting the success of the Arctic expedition sent out under captain J. C. Ross to the relief of the ice-bound whale-ships. Captain Ross sailed from Hull on the 6th. Since the expedition has been fitting out several of the whalers have reached this country; but the crews were in an exhausted condition, owing to their provisions having fallen short.

18. Trials of the Paris republicans (see p. 970) concluded. No single sentence of capital punishment was passed. Two of the prisoners only were acquitted, and some nineteen or twenty were condemned to transportation for life, or to different terms of imprisonment. The prisoners who escaped from prison were condemned *en contumace*.

29. DEATH OF LORD STOWEL.—This eminent civilian, better known as sir William Scott, expired at Early Court, near Reading, in the 91st year of his age. He was a privy councillor and master of the faculties, though he survived the loss of his own, and died without pain or consciousness after a few days' illness. He had only retired from the judgeship of the high court of Admiralty in 1828, an office he had filled with lustrous ability for thirty years. His will is dated April 30, 1830. The personality was sworn to be under 230,000*l.*, and the real estates at his lordship's death produced 18,000*l.* a-year. His only surviving child, lady Sidmouth, takes a life interest in the whole property, both real and personal; after which the landed estates descend to his great nephew, lord Encombe, the grandson of his brother, lord Eldon. The great lawyers, as before remarked in the case of lord Thurlow (p. 673), rarely succeed in striking their roots deep into the soil by a direct off-

shoot, and the vast amassings of professional life have been mostly lost among collateral or remote inheritors. The name of Stowel has had a fleeting place in the peerage, the bearer only being ennobled in 1821, and his only son, the hon. Wm. Scott, died unmarried two months before him, when the father from the loss of reason was happily insensible that no one survived to transmit his title. In other respects the two Scotts, William and John, were the most prosperous men of their time. Their father was a shrewd painstaking tradesman, who at Newcastle carried on the business of a fitter, that is a shipper of coals. Both the boys excelled at the grammar-school of the town, and were favourites of the master for quick perception, assiduity, and docility. When asked to give an account of the Sunday sermon, their father's weekly custom, the eldest, William, would repeat a sort of digest of the argument; John, on the other hand, recapitulated all the minutiae of the discourse, even the phrases of the preacher; he showed a memory complete and exact, but failed to give the scope and bearing of the sermon embodied in half the number of words by William. In after-life the brothers advanced *pari passu*, keeping abreast in the pursuit of riches and honours. They were knighted on attaining official rank within two months of each other; the advocate-general, sir William Scott, and the solicitor-general, sir John Scott, repaired for the first time to the same levee; they almost contemporaneously succeeded to the high legal offices they so long filled, John as lord chancellor, and William as admiralty judge; and the long war, which they jointly supported, was almost equally profitable; augmenting the income of John to an average of about 18,000*l.* per annum, and that of William to about 10,000*l.* It is also a remarkable coincidence in the biographies of these veteran Tories, that each can only be charged with one *égarement* likely to endanger their future prospects. John eloped to Gretna with the daughter of Mr. Surtees, the banker of Newcastle, before completing his legal studies, but never repeated his indiscretion in any analogous shape. The waywardness of William, too, was of a feminine kind, committed, however, not in the heyday of reckless adolescence, but when he had attained the mature age of 69, and presided over the highest tribunal of civil law. During the trial of the marquis of Sligo for prevarication, and for which he was sentenced to pay a fine of 5000*l.*, and be imprisoned four months in Newgate, the grave civilian became enamoured of the young peer's mother, who attended

the court pending her son's trial; and, regardless of the warning example of Addison, who ambitiously united his fortunes to those of a lady of quality (countess of Warwick), he married her. The union was an unhappy one. The oracle of Doctors' Commons in affairs matrimonial was unable to reconcile the perplexities of his own case. It is supposed that his known love of sight-seeing, of the Fives Court, Punch and Judy, and prize-battles, and his frequently commoning in the Temple, were connected with the irksomeness of his own mansion, where the marchioness of Sligo presided. Bating this infelicity, the course of sir William appears to have been more fortunate and flowery than that of the lord chancellor; it was less in the thorny walk of politics. The whole of his youth, and the early prime of manhood, were spent among the literary and the learned, in the class and the lecture-room,—in the midst of libraries, and gardens, and academic groves; enjoying occasionally the quiet luxuries of "the ride to Abingdon, the walk in Christ Church meadows, the stroll in Magdalen walks, the society of the common room;"—scenes and recollections which, we are told, sir William always prized with such fond remembrance, that an old Oxford calendar, by the associations it awakened, was to him as "a volume of poetry" (*Law Magazine*, xxxiii. 31). He was eighteen years a college tutor, occupied in training the intellect of the aristocracy in classical and historical knowledge. During the next fifteen years he shone in the literary circles of London, the "Dr. Scott of the Commons," the friend of Johnson, lord Spencer, sir Joseph Banks, Reynolds, Burke, and Windham,—the favourite of the *Turk's Head Club*. The next thirty were spent in the Admiralty chair, in accumulating riches from naval prizes, and in forming a system of international law from the ill-fashioned toils of his predecessors. The manners of lord Stowel are described as attaching in the highest degree. "They were at once graceful, courtier-like, and dignified, totally free from pride and affectation, but slightly formal. He had lived in an age of hoops and minuets, when full dress was as much cultivated beyond the verge of a court as it is now sought to be abolished within it; before the remembrance of Beau Nash and his despotic sway had entirely faded; when the appellations of Sir and Madam in society were as rigidly exacted as they are of late dispensed with; and the sir Charles Grandisons of the day loved to bow low on their ladies' hands." (*Ibid.* 84.) He had also the other adjuncts of the old school—he was a *bon-vivant*—a lover of good dinners, good wine,

and good stories. Of good dinners, lord Eldon used to say, "he would answer for it, that his brother had never fewer than 365 in any one year." The refectory of the Temple-hall he would often take by way of a whet for the eight o'clock banquet. As a judge, his lordship was celebrated for learned, acute, and sententious reasoning, in choice and elevated diction, arranged in nicely-balanced periods, studded with the rarest gems of classical allusions and quotations. The admiralty chair formed his task and his toy, in which he loved to expatiate before a select, and little more than drawing-room, audience. His *bons mots* are sometimes quoted, but, as they seem to have little pith, they must have owed their fame to his naïve and graceful execution. The following is mentioned as one of his chivalrous delicacies. When a late celebrated duchess bantered the consistory judge, and inquired, "How his court would manage if he himself should be guilty of a *faux-pas*?" he answered, with a gallantry becoming the question, "That the idea of such an embarrassing situation had only occurred to him since he had become acquainted with her grace." Upon the whole, the late lord was among the most fortunate of his contemporaries. His benevolence was limited to self and kin; and, undisturbed in his course by any cosmopolitan sympathies, he reached the goal, and, with few mortifying delays, happily dropt into the sphere suited to his taste, education, and talents.

30. Trial of Fieschi, who fired the infernal machine (see p. 979), and his accomplices, Morey, Pepin, Boireau, and Bescher, began before the French chamber of peers. During the first two days of the trial Fieschi laboured to make it appear that he had aimed at the king's life from no private or political motive, but merely because Pepin and Morey had hired him to do it. His revelations, however, were little to be relied upon, as his excessive vanity seemed nearly allied to insanity. The manner in which he absorbed the attention of the press gave him great satisfaction. He was evidently a dissolute ruffian, carried away by no mistaken enthusiasm, religious or republican, but actuated by a mere desire of making so many francs by a reckless assassination. The proceedings lasted a fortnight. On February 15th the court sentenced Fieschi to be put to death as a parricide—that is, to be conducted to the scaffold barefooted, and covered with a shroud, and Pepin and Morey to be guillotined in the usual way. Boireau was sentenced to twenty years' imprisonment, and Bescher was acquitted. The three executions took place on the 19th, in the presence of a vast multitude



of spectators, but without any disturbance. No discoveries of any general importance were obtained in the course of the trial. It appears, however, that Morey, who was a staunch republican, was the contriver of the whole plot, and that Fieschi was engaged in it, on account of his mechanical ingenuity and knowledge of the use of fire-arms.

*Feb. 3.* A new silver coin of the value of four-pence issued.

4. PARLIAMENT opened by the king in person. The royal speech was remarkable for the number, variety, and importance of its announcements, and seemed to prognosticate a session of unusual legislative activity. After the usual assurances of the maintenance of friendly relations abroad; regrets at the continuance of the civil contest in the northern provinces of Spain, and the expression of a hope of a successful result to our mediation between France and the United States, the king adverted to the domestic condition of the empire. The state of commerce and manufactures was admitted to be highly satisfactory, but difficulties continued to press on agriculture which deserved consideration. Attention was directed to measures that would be submitted for increasing the efficiency of the church, for the commutation of tithes, and for alleviating the grievances of dissenters. The necessity of maintaining the maritime strength of the country, and of giving adequate protection to commerce, had occasioned an increase in the naval estimates. Improvements in the administration of justice were recommended, especially in the court of chancery; a just settlement of tithes in Ireland; a remedy to defects in the municipal corporations of Ireland, founded on the same principles as the municipal acts passed for England and Scotland. Finally, the condition of the poor of Ireland was alluded to, and an intimation thrown out that the experience afforded of the "salutary effect" of the poor-law amendment act in England, might guide them in their approaches to this difficult subject. In both houses amendments were moved to the ministerial address, by the duke of Wellington and sir R. Peel, with a view of avoiding a specific pledge to reform the corporations of Ireland on the same principles as those of Britain had been reformed. In the upper house, where opposition by ministers would have been unavailing, the amendment was agreed to without a division, after some remarks from lords Melbourne and Lansdowne. In the commons the house divided, when the original address was carried by 284 against 243. Lord Stanley voted with sir R. Peel in this division.

8. The paragraph relating to agricultural distress in the king's speech having been read, lord John Russell moved for a select committee to inquire into the causes of the depression of that interest. His lordship, however, confessed that he did not anticipate any satisfactory result from the investigation. It appears that the principal problem to be solved is, why the price of wheat is at present so much lower than it used to be, in relation to the price of barley; but, if this be an evil, it is one that is likely to puzzle parliament to cure. The landed interest was left to solve the difficulty in their own way, for the proportion of county to town members in the committee was nearly four to one. The committee sat four months, but was unable to agree to a report, and merely laid before the house the evidence they had taken.

9. Lord John Russell brought forward the cabinet plan for the commutation of tithes in England. It became an act of parliament, of which an outline is given at the end of the session, *Aug. 20.*

11. A deputation waited upon lord Melbourne to ask for the entire abolition of the newspaper-stamp. Dr. Birkbeck, Mr. Hume, Colonel Thompson, Mr. O'Connell, Mr. Grote, Mr. Roebuck, Mr. Brotherton, Mr. Wallace, and Mr. Buckingham spoke in favour of the measure, and lord Melbourne, after alluding to the importance of the question as it affected the pursuits and opinions of the people, said that the reasons adduced in favour of abolition should meet with serious attention.

A war had been for some time vigorously carried on against the stamp, by the open sale in the streets and elsewhere of unstamped newspapers. Hetherington, Cleave, and other London vendors had been convicted in repeated penalties for the sale of unstamped newspapers. The vendors of unstamped newspapers in the large provincial towns had also been subjected to prosecutions, and many were convicted and imprisoned.

12. Lord John Russell submitted to the house of commons two measures of great importance, and which were anxiously expected by the country; the first, a bill for a general registration of marriages, births and deaths; the second, a bill for the amendment of the marriage laws. They both became statutes, and a notice of them is given, *Aug. 20.*

16. Mutual and disgusting atrocities continue to disgrace the civil war in Spain. A Carlist partisan, named Cabrera, had taken prisoners and shot two constitutional alcaldes, or magistrates, and committed other acts of vengeance of the same kind. Unable to catch this insurgent, the brigadier commandant general of Lower

Arragon ordered the execution of his mother, and the arrest of his three sisters, who were living quietly in the town of Tortosa. The governor of Tortosa, revolting at the idea of shooting a defenceless old woman to expiate atrocities committed by her son, delayed the execution, until positive orders came from Mina, the captain-general for the queen in Catalonia, that the deed should be done. Accordingly at 9 o'clock on the morning of the 16th inst. the señora Cabrera was shot! Her three daughters, with their husbands, and many near relations, were detained in close confinement.

The case of Mr. O'Connell, and his alleged engagement to procure a seat in the house for Mr. Raphael, as one of the representatives of the county of Carlow, for the sum of 2000*l.*, was brought before the commons by Mr. Hardy, and a select committee appointed to investigate the transaction. The report of the committee was a complete acquittal of Mr. O'Connell.

17. The claims of the maritime officers of the East India Company, who, not having been on actual service within five years prior to August, 1833, were excluded from compensation by the board of directors,—were this day negatived in a court of proprietors by a majority of 25. About 500 proprietors voted.

18. Lord Morpeth introduced the ministerial bill for the establishment of a constabulary force in Ireland, being nearly the same measure which was last session thrown out by the lords. The bill proposes to take the appointment of petty constables out of the hands of the local magistracy, and to place it in those of the lord-lieutenant; a change which sir R. Peel, in the peculiar state of Ireland, thought expedient. After this a committee was appointed, on the motion of Mr. C. Buller, to inquire into the conduct of the commissioners of public records, and into the state of these records. Resolutions were next moved by Mr. Ward, and agreed to, for taking down the names of members on divisions, and obtaining an authentic record of the votes of the house. An animated discussion ensued on the subject of tithes, to which a motion by Mr. Sheil, for a return of the number of tithe-processes issued by the court of exchequer in Ireland, in 1835-6, gave rise. Mr. sergeant Jackson moved that the return should also include the number of orders issued by the government to the police to assist in the collection of tithe, which was agreed to.

19. The chancellor of the exchequer announced in the commons that lord Sidmouth, who had been in possession of a pension of 3000*l.* a-year, secured to him

by act of parliament for public services, had voluntarily resigned his title. His lordship had obtained a large increase of income by the recent death of his father-in-law, lord Stowel.

Lord Dudley Stuart moved for the production of a copy of the treaty of Unkiar Skelessi. (See July 8, 1833.) The object of his lordship was to impress upon the house a sense of the danger to be apprehended from the encroaching spirit of Russian policy; among the past achievements of which he reckoned the formation of the German commercial league; and whose ultimate designs he considered as comprehending not only the conquest of Turkey, of Persia, and of India, but the acquisition also of further influence and dominion towards the west, by the gradual envelopment of Austria, of Prussia, and of Italy. Lord Palmerston and Mr. Poulett Thomson, who replied to his lordship, treated these apprehensions as visionary, and expressed their convictions that there was nothing in the conduct or intentions of the czar to excite either hostility or alarm on the part of this country. The German commercial league they spoke of as more likely to be beneficial than injurious to our commerce and manufactures. It may be also noticed that Mr. Thomson, in the course of his speech, took occasion to characterize the alleged Russian state papers, that had recently been published under the title of the "Portfolio," as absurd impositions. Motion agreed to.

20. Rev. Doctor Hampden gazetted as *regius professor* of divinity at Oxford, in the room of Dr. Burton, deceased. His appointment produced considerable excitement at Oxford for some time, his theological opinions having been affirmed by his opponents not to be orthodox. The professor's inaugural address, March 17, contained satisfactory proof of the fallacy of this notion.

22. The *Moniteur* contains the list of the new French ministry, of which M. Thiers is the head. In alluding to the change in the chambers, the premier said no alteration would be made in the policy which the French cabinet had followed since the death of Casimir Perier, and which policy accords with that pursued by the reform ministry in England.

23. House of lords occupied this evening by a debate on the subject of the late appointments of borough magistrates by lord John Russell, on the recommendation of the new town-councils, to which the attention of the house was called by lord Wharncliffe. As was to be expected, and as, indeed, may be considered to have been unavoidable in the circumstances, the names submitted to government by the



town-councils for appointments to the magistracy have in general been exclusively those of persons belonging to the party of the majority of the council: there have been a few cases of exception, in which the majority has not exercised its powers to the full extent, but there can be no doubt that for the most part the opposite course has been taken. In various instances, it appears that the controlling authority of the home secretary has been applied to correct this rigorous partisanship, by the substitution of other names for those in the lists. Usually, however, in conformity with the pledge he gave publicly last session in parliament, he has adopted, without any alteration, the names submitted by the council. Time it is hoped will remedy this defect, and it is desirable that it should, as it is the very essence of the representative principle in politics, that a due representation of the minority as well as the majority should be secured.

23. Mr. Buckingham's compensation bill for losses sustained in India was thrown out of the commons by a majority of 118 against 46.

29. Mr. Sergeant O'Loughlin moved in the commons the second reading of the Irish municipal reform bill. It was intended to give to the seven large towns of Dublin, Limerick, Belfast, Kilkenny, Waterford, Cork, and Galway, a constituency for electing the town-council, comprising the occupiers of all houses of the value of 10*l*.; and in all the other boroughs of those occupying houses of the value of 5*l*. Sir Robert Peel said he would not support the maintenance of the present corporations, but he would not consent to the substitution of other corporations.

**AFFAIR OF CRACOW.**—This ancient Polish city, with a strip of surrounding territory, was erected into an independent state by the congress of Vienna in 1815; all the allied powers, England among them, guaranteeing its rights and independence. As such a small state was insufficient to support a king and court, Cracow was allowed to govern itself according to republican forms, and in this posture matters continued till the Polish insurrection of 1830 and its unfortunate results, one of which was the wholesale proscription of the Poles of the duchy of Warsaw by the emperor Nicholas. As an independent state, many of the Polish exiles thought they might safely take up their residence in Cracow. The three great partitioners of Poland, however, felt uneasy at the concentration of so many Poles in the centre of their spoiliations. Russia, Austria, and Prussia, jointly complained of the protection afforded to the Poles; accused them of conspiring to re-

establish the Polish kingdom, and of being guilty of disorder in Cracow itself. They demanded their expulsion from the republic, or, if not promptly complied with, threatened to march troops into its territories. Accordingly, in February, Russian and Austrian troops were marched into a state which had a formal guarantee from the Vienna congress that no foreign armament should ever violate its territory.

*March 4.* The navy estimates, being laid before the commons, exhibited an increase of expenditure compared with those of last year of 287,000*l*., occasioned by the employment of 5000 additional seamen. Ministers defended the augmentation as necessary to the protection of commerce, and allusions were made by different members to the menacing or ambiguous attitude of Russia.

11. Lord Howick, in bringing forward the army estimates, in which there was a reduction of charge, moved that the number of men to be maintained, exclusive of those in the East Indies, do not exceed 81,319. Mr. Hume moved a reduction of 5000 men, which was negatived by 136 to 43. Sir W. Molesworth next moved that the foot guards be put, in respect of pay, on the same scale as infantry of the line, which would effect a saving of 9000*l*. a-year, but the amendment was rejected by 217 against 43.

15. **NEWSPAPER STAMP DUTY.**—Chancellor of the exchequer announced the intentions of the government in respect of the stamp-duties, especially of the stamp on newspapers, which last had for some time excited a strong interest in the public mind. It was proposed, he stated, to revise the whole of the present law respecting stamp-duties; first by consolidating into one statute the 150 acts of parliament over which the law was at present distributed; secondly, by the apportionment of the various rates on a new principle—namely, by the simple and uniform rule of making the price of the stamp in every case correspond to the pecuniary value involved in the transaction for which it is required. The effect of this change would be to reduce the stamp-duty upon indentures of apprenticeship, bills of lading, and many others of the more common instruments, and to increase it somewhat upon mortgages and conveyances of large amounts of property; but it was not expected that it would make much difference upon the entire produce of the duties. The consolidation act which was in preparation, it was intimated, would contain no fewer than 330 sections; but it was suggested by some members that it might probably be a more convenient plan to divide all this matter into a short series of acts, one

for each class of stamp-duties. With regard to the stamp on newspapers, Mr. Rice stated that it was proposed to reduce it from its present amount of 4*d.* with the discount to 1*d.* without discount. This would be a reduction of exactly 2½*d.* on all newspapers sold for 7*d.* or less, and of 2¾*d.*, or rather more than 2½*d.* on all sold for more than 7*d.* A portion varying between two-thirds and three-fourths of the whole tax would thus be remitted. To this remission parliament assented, by which the illicit circulation of unstamped newspapers, which had long been followed, was at once rendered so profitless as to be entirely abandoned. Some members were opposed to the retention of the penny stamp, considering it the duty of government to remove every obstacle to the diffusion of political information. But this would have made a postage necessary, to which the newspaper proprietors were opposed as practically inconvenient; and which, moreover, would have been virtually a tax on the country reader of a London newspaper, from which the town reader would have been exempt. The transmission of papers at the public expense, without either stamp or postage, appeared an inadmissible proposition. It would have evinced a desire to spread political intelligence to the exclusion of literature and science. Some were in favour of the repeal of the duties on paper, in lieu of the stamp-duty on newspapers. The reduction of the newspaper-tax was the only proposition of Mr. Rice on the stamp-duties that was carried.

22. Lord John Hay, commander of the British naval squadron stationed off the northern coast of Spain, intimated to general Cordova that he had received orders from the British government to co-operate with the queen's army on that part of the coast.

28. Third reading of the Irish municipal bill carried in the commons by 260 against 199. The debate was protracted, in which the chief speakers were Mr. Ward, sir R. Inglis, Mr. Ewart, Mr. Shiel, and sir. R. Peel.

*April 7.* DEATH OF WILLIAM GODWIN. —This eminent writer was in the 81st year of his age. He was born at Wisbeach, and was neither the eldest nor youngest of a large family. Both his father and grandfather were dissenting ministers, and William himself became a preacher at Stowmarket, after attending five years, under the tuition of doctors Rees and Kippis, the Dissenting College, Hoxton. In 1783 he laid aside the clerical character and removed to London, determined to apply himself to literature as a profession. His first work was a

volume of sermons, called "Sketches of History," published in 1784. He next was engaged on the "New Annual Register," from which he derived a small but certain income. The political convulsions of France soon after followed, and into this vortex Godwin was carried, and from which he never entirely escaped. His "Inquiry into Political Justice," which was hastily written in sixteen months, appeared in 1793, and attracted much popular attention from the boldness and novelty of its doctrines. It is a transcript of the opinions which the stormy period of its birth had revealed, and offers the singular anomaly of seeking to establish the empire of reason by the abrogation of those social guarantees which reason has slowly elaborated from the waste of barbarism: its tendency is to exalt the natural above the civilized man. In a second edition the author corrected some of his extravagances, but left sufficient to show that his mind was not of the inductive cast. He is eloquent and impassioned, but superficial, and evidently without the powers of intellectual analysis and combination essential to the successful investigation of ethical and political philosophy. This he appears to have discovered, and he subsequently applied himself to biography, history, and the composition of works of imagination. In 1797 he married Mary Wollstonecraft, one of the most remarkable characters of her time; and who, to a mind of masculine strength and independence, united a kind and affectionate heart. The union, which was happy and congenial in sentiment, was of short duration, Mrs. Godwin dying within a few months after giving birth to the present Mrs. Shelley, the authoress of "Frankenstein." In 1801 Mr. Godwin again married an accomplished widow lady, who survived him. For some years he was occupied in business as a bookseller, and under the name of Edward Baldwin issued various little works for the entertainment and instruction of young persons. But it will be seen, from the date of his publications among the "Men of Letters" of the present reign, that his more serious literary labours were never long suspended. During his life he had the gratification of associating with some of the most distinguished of his contemporaries, Fox, Sheridan, Macintosh, Holcroft, Grattan, Walter Scott, and Curran, the last his particular friend, whom, in 1800, he visited in Ireland. Mr. Godwin says of himself that he was "constitutionally meditative;" but his bland courtesy and placid aspect only imperfectly indicated the fire and animation of his intellect. His biographies and History of the Commonwealth have the



great merits of fidelity, accuracy, and careful research. His novels are among the best in the language, and fully reach one of the chief ends of such compositions, in keeping up excitement and unrelaxed interest. The incidents, however, are sometimes repulsive, and some of the characters, though nobly and chivalrously conceived, border on the extravagant. His style is rapid, transparent, and spirited; his descriptive scenes graphic, vivid, and glowing, especially those of domestic love, and feminine grace or beauty. It is high testimony to the wisdom and benevolence of Mr. Godwin's character, that he always cherished lofty sentiments on the virtues and destiny of his species. The sum he received for his "Political Justice" was 700*l.*; for "Caleb Williams," 84*l.*; "St. Leon," 400 guineas. A few of his last years were made comfortable by an appointment which he received, during the administration of earl Grey, to the sinecure of yeoman usher of the exchequer. The apartments he occupied in New Palace Yard, and where he died, have been lately pulled down to make way for local improvements.

8. A little after midnight the equestrian statue of king William the Third, on College-green, Dublin, was blown up by gunpowder. The statue stood on a pedestal eighteen feet in height, surrounded by an enclosure of iron railing, the summit of the statue being about thirty feet from the level of the street. The figure was of lead, and, though weighing several tons, was blown up some distance in the air, and fell a few paces distant from the pedestal. The authors of the plot have not been discovered, and the Orangemen are much disconcerted by this abrupt ejection of the idol of faction.

16. Duel between señors Isturitz and Mendizabal at Madrid, in consequence of an altercation in the chamber of deputies. No harm was done, and Isturitz retracted the expression deemed offensive by his opponent.

19. Mr. D. W. Harvey's motion for a revision of the pension-list negatived by 268 against 146.

25. Ministerial plan for the settlement of tithes in Ireland brought forward by lord Morpeth. His lordship stated that the present measure differed from that introduced last year, principally in an arrangement being now made, by which no parochial benefice would be altogether suppressed. In all parishes where the number of resident protestants was below 50, the incumbent should have an income of 100*l.*; the income would rise with the number of protestants, but no parochial living would be above 500*l.* in annual

value. According to this scheme, the annual remuneration to the clergy would amount to 361,938*l.* This sum was of course to be obtained from the tithes, which it was proposed to commute into a perpetual rent-charge, payable by the owner of the first estate of inheritance, a deduction being made from the present amount of the burden to the extent of 30 per cent. This, it was calculated, would afford a revenue of 459,550*l.*; so that the difference between the receipt and expenditure would be 97,612*l.* His lordship observed that the government felt they could not abandon the engagements they had made on entering office, and that therefore they still adhered to the principle of what was called the appropriation clause in the bill of last year, and should propose that if, in the future disposition of the revenues of the Irish church, any portion of them should appear to be superfluous for the uses of the members of her community, it should, after the satisfaction of all existing interests, be applied to the religious and moral instruction of the whole Irish people. Preliminary resolution agreed to.

26. The lords assembled in great force to do execution, as threatened, upon the Irish municipal bill. On the order of the day being moved for the house to resolve itself into a committee on the bill, lord Fitzgerald, in a long speech, moved "That it be an instruction to the committee to make provision for the abolition of the corporations, and for such arrangements as may be necessary, on their abolition, for securing the efficient and impartial execution of justice, and the peace and good government of cities and towns in Ireland." The principal speakers in the debate that followed were, in support of the motion, lords Abinger and Lyndhurst; and, in opposition to it, the lord chancellor and lords Holland and Melbourne. Their lordships divided at near one o'clock in the morning, when the numbers were found to be—for lord Fitzgerald's motion, 203 (including 70 proxies); against it, 119 (including 47 proxies). After this triumph, lord Lansdowne intimated that the bill was abandoned by ministers to the nursing of lord Lyndhurst.

In the commons Mr. Rippon moved, and Mr. Gillon seconded, a resolution, "That the attendance of the bishops in parliament is prejudicial to the cause of religion." Ayes, 53; noes, 180.

27. The great strength of the landed interest in the commons was shown on the motion of the marquis of Chandos:—"That in the application of any surplus revenue towards the relief of the burdens of the country, either by remission of taxation or

otherwise, due regard should be had to the necessity of a portion thereof being applied to the relief of the agricultural interest." Lord John Russell, in opposing the motion, pointed out the various ways in which the burdens of the proprietors and cultivators of the soil had been of late years diminished, and dwelt especially upon the important relief which it was unanimously agreed they had obtained through the new poor-law. The result, however, of this first side-blow aimed at the proposed reductions of the newspaper stamp and the paper duty, was calculated to give rise to some apprehension as to the fate of these propositions of enlightened policy; for Lord Chandos's motion was only negatived by a majority of 208 to 172. Thus, in a house of 380 members, the exertion of all the strength of government appeared to be able to beat the combination of the landlords by no greater a majority than 36; and on this occasion both sir Robert Peel, lord Stanley, and sir James Graham deserted the opposition, and voted with ministers against the motion.

28. In the lords, the lord chancellor explained his plan for the regulation of his own office, as contained in two bills which he presented, the one to provide for the better administration of justice in the court of chancery, the other respecting the appellate jurisdiction of their lordships. Both bills were thrown out on the second reading.

During the months of February, March, and April, the sees of Durham, Ely, Lichfield and Coventry, Killaloe, and Clonfert, became vacant by the deaths of their respective bishops.

May 3. Mr. Grantley Berkeley moved in the commons, that *ladies* be admitted to hear the debates. Ayes, 132; noes, 90. However, when the chancellor of the exchequer moved for a grant of 400*l.* to carry this chivalrous vote into effect, it was refused by 42 to 28, chiefly from the opposition of the speaker. In the old house of commons, ladies used to be admitted to hear the debates over the ventilator.

5. Fortified works, which had cost the Carlists three or four months to erect, and through the centre of which ran the high road to Hernani, were gallantly carried by the English auxiliary legion under general Evans. Two armed steamers, commanded by lord John Hay, which by a well-directed fire opened a passage through the enemy's works, lent very opportune aid to the victors. The loss of the British in killed and wounded amounted to 800, among whom were 70 or 80 officers. The Carlist general was killed.

6. The chancellor of the exchequer

brought forward the budget, and entered into a detail on the prosperous state of the country. He said that the income of the current financial year was 46,980,000*l.*, and the expenditure 46,318,000*l.*, leaving a surplus of 662,000*l.* With this surplus he proposed to reduce the duty on first-class paper, from 3*d.* to 1½*d.*, and to abolish altogether the duty on stained paper; to remit the South Sea duties, amounting to 10,000*l.*; to reduce the duties on insurances of farming stock, on taxed carts, and on newspapers. The total amount of the repeals which he proposed he estimated at 351,000*l.* for the present year, and 520,000*l.* when they should all come into operation.

9. The lords went into committee on the Irish municipal bill, when an amendment, moved by lord Lyndhurst on the second clause, which raised the whole question between the plan of the reform of the corporations, as proposed by ministers, and that simply of abolition brought forward by the opposition, was, after an animated debate, carried on a division, by a majority of 107 to 53. All the rest of the clauses to the 21st inclusive were then struck out, on the motion of lord Lyndhurst, except the 3d and 10th, which were agreed to.

12. Mr. Clay in an able speech moved for the appointment of a select committee to inquire into the operation of the act permitting the establishment of joint-stock banks. The chancellor of the exchequer expressed his concurrence in the motion, and stated that the government would take upon itself the appointment of the committee.

16. Committee appointed to try the validity of the return of Mr. O'Connell and Mr. Ruthven for Dublin reported that they had not been duly elected. Mr. O'Connell, foreseeing the issue of this inquiry, had provided himself with another seat, by one of his friends accepting the Chiltern Hundreds, and he appeared during the remainder of the session as member for Kilkenny.

Mendizabal, the Spanish prime minister, from whose abilities much had been anticipated, resigned in consequence of the queen's refusal that generals Quesada, Espeleta, and San Roman should be superseded in the commands they held in Madrid. He had not been zealously supported by the cortes. M. Isturitz succeeded him.

28. Sir Francis Head, the new governor of Upper Canada, dissolved the house of assembly. In April the house had stopped the supplies as a means of obtaining redress for the alleged grievances of the province. Sir Francis had declared at



the outset of his government, that his instructions were such, that an elective legislative council could not be granted, and what were called the crown reserves would not be abandoned, except on condition of an adequate and permanent civil list being voted. The result of the dissolution apparently afforded a triumph to the governor; out of 64 members returned, only 18 belonged to the radical party, the remaining 44 disapproving of their proceedings.

June 1. On the second reading of the Irish tithe bill, lord Stanley moved an amendment, the object of which was to get rid of the appropriation clause, and preserve to the church undiminished its revenues. The discussion lasted three nights, during which all the leading members on both sides addressed the house. Lord Stanley intimated that the adoption of his amendment would obtain for the ministerial bill the support of those whose co-operation never could nor would be otherwise obtained. Lord John Russell, in reply, contended that, in legislating for Ireland, it was necessary to consult the interests and feelings of the great body of the people. The real question in controversy, both in regard to the church and corporations, in the future government of Ireland, was, whether the old protestant ascendancy, or the national interests, shall be consulted. On the other hand, it was urged, by a third class of reasoners, that the ministers' bill was weak and remote from a final settlement. If, for example, according to their own position, the church of Ireland were in future to be regulated according to the prevailing taste of a majority of its inhabitants, the mere abstraction, as proposed, of 90,000*l.* from its present revenues would not attain that object. It can only be viewed as the first instalment of a much larger debt of justice due to the catholic population. At a quarter past three o'clock on the morning of Saturday, the house divided:—for lord Stanley's amendment, 261, against it, 300. Lord John Russell's bill was then read a second time.

1. A numerous meeting of the friends of Mr. O'Connell held at the Crown and Anchor, for the purpose of commencing a subscription to indemnify him for the expenses to which he had been put in defending his seat for Dublin. Nearly 3000*l.* was subscribed at the meeting, and the subscription ultimately reached near 9000*l.*

6. Died at Pilsnitz, in his 82nd year, ANTHONY CLEMENT THEODORE, king of Saxony. He succeeded his brother Frederick Augustus in 1827, and he is now in his turn succeeded by a nephew, who

since 1830 had been associated with him in the government, under the title of co-regent. This interesting but limited state has had but little influence in the affairs of Germany since the congress of Vienna, when, in punishment for Frederick Augustus having been the last to quit Napoleon and join the allies, a million of the Saxon people, who had all along disapproved of his tergiversations and devotion to the French, were given over to Prussia, and the territories they occupied (about half of the kingdom) incorporated with the Prussian dominions. Since then the king of Prussia has exercised an influence over the whole, and recently Saxony has been induced to become a party to the German trade-league. Thus the people have paid dearly for the fault of their ruler, and yet, according to M. de Talleyrand, the only fault to be attributed to the old king, in not seceding from Buonaparte quite so soon as some other allies of the French, was his having allowed his clock to be a quarter of an hour slower than his neighbours.

13. IRISH MUNICIPAL BILL.—The greater part of the clauses in the Irish municipal bill, which had been struck out by the lords, were restored in the commons with merely verbal alterations. A conference next took place, without satisfactory result. On the 30th the subject was resumed in the commons, and several members strongly animadverted on the constitution of the house of lords, in reference to the exercise of its legislative power. In a discussion in the lords on the 27th, earl Grey threw out a novel suggestion for effecting a compromise between the supporters and opponents of the bill. His lordship's suggestion was, that every voter should be restricted to voting for only a half or five-eighths, or other fixed proportion of the whole number of town councillors, so that no party could be established to the entire exclusion of the rest,—but a minority, of whatever persuasion it might be, would always retain a proportionate share of influence in municipal government. The idea was only imperfectly understood. It failed to reconcile differences between the houses, and the bill fell to the ground.

20. DEATH OF ABBE SIEYES.—This venerable *artiste* of political constitutions died at Paris in his 88th year. At the commencement of the great revolution he was grand-vicar to the bishop of Chartres, and acquired celebrity by his writings. In a book which gave a powerful impulse to the public mind, he asked this question: "What is the *tiers-état*?" And he answered, "Nothing."—"What ought it to be?"—"Everything." M. Dumont, who

knew the Abbé at this time, describes him as a shy, absent, dreaming man, who lived much in solitude, and thought he had completely mastered the science of government. He was successively a member of the national assembly, the national convention, a director, and consul, and, on the fall of the republic, became a count and peer of the empire. On the return of the Bourbons, he was proscribed for having voted for "*la mort sans phrase*" of Louis XVI. His proscription, as well as that of others, was removed under Louis Philip, on which Sieyès returned to France. He was one of those men who, in ages of enthusiasm, found a sect, and, in an age of intelligence, exercise the ascendant of a powerful understanding. The progress and composition of civil society formed his favourite subjects of contemplation. Although cool and deliberate, he had the ardour which inspires the investigation of truth, and the fearlessness to insist on its promulgation. The leading characteristic of his mind was concatenation, that is to say, the strict connexion of his own ideas. Like Jeremy Bentham, he was on the best understanding with himself; but he neither harmonized with existing realities, nor with minds different from his own. Hence it was not wonderful that, though this able Frenchman made fifty constitutions, he never hit upon the practicable and right one. His patterns were cut to his own cogitations, irrespective of living interests, opinions, and usages. He thought the British constitution of three estates mere *charlatanerie*, which was the natural conclusion of a philosopher who conceived society ought to be uniform without distinction of classes. Notwithstanding his proneness to abstraction, he had the energy in particular emergencies of practical conceptions, as was instanced in the overthrow of the directory in 1799, which was planned by him and executed by Napoleon. Sieyès was avaricious, but just. He lost the favour of the first revolutionists by resisting the confiscation of church tithe without compensation to the present owners.

22. Trial in the Court of Common Pleas, in which lord Melbourne, first lord of the treasury, was defendant, and Mr. Norton, one of the police justices of the metropolis, was plaintiff. The trial related to alleged criminalities between his lordship and Mrs. Norton, grand-daughter of Richard Brinsley Sheridan. The jury found a verdict for the defendant.

23. Died at Kensington, in his 63rd year, JAMES MILL, the historian of British India. He was a native of Kincardineshire, and studied at Edinburgh. He was licensed as a preacher in the Scotch church,

and came to London as a tutor in the family of sir John Stuart, one of the barons of the exchequer in Scotland, on whose estate his father occupied a farm. He did not return to Scotland, but remained in the metropolis, where he devoted himself to literary and philosophical pursuits. The work by which he first became known to the public is the *History of British India*, published in 1818. It is not distinguished by beauties of style or narration, which the philosophic turn of the author might deem secondary objects in his undertaking; but abounds with enlarged and liberal views in politics, political economy, and legislation; and, by its high estimation with individuals exercising authority over that vast empire, has beneficially influenced the course of oriental administration. Of Mr. Mill it has been said, "he was a man of extensive and profound learning, thoroughly imbued with the doctrines of ethical and metaphysical science, conversant above most men with the writings of the ancient philosophers, whose language he familiarly knew, and gifted with extraordinary powers of application, which had made quite natural to him a life of severe and unremitting study." (*Lord Brougham's Speeches*, ii. 394.) He was not remarkable for originality of mind, but possessed a talent for giving a mathematical form, if not mathematical certainty, to the generalities of Bentham and other writers. It is thus that he has arrived at an apparent demonstration of the verity of some of Mr. Ricardo's fallacies in his "*Elements of Political Economy*;" and in his celebrated article on Government, inserted in the Supplement to the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, he assumes that self-interest is the chief, if not the sole, actuating motive of mankind. It is only by attaching a meaning to the word remote from the ordinary, that this repulsive proposition is wrought out, and the conclusion, after all, seems mixed up with error; for it is folly and ignorance, rather than selfishness, that have done so much mischief in the world. Man is the most disinterested of all animals; most intent on the pursuit of objects foreign to his well-being; and the most pressing end of philosophy and legislation seems to be, to draw him from the "shadows vain," on which he is and always has been occupied, to matters really essential to his happiness. Mr. Mill sustained a high character among his contemporaries, and was eminently independent in sentiment and conduct. By his death society has lost one of its most useful instructors. He fell a victim of consumption, after nearly a year of lingering illness, during which he was disabled from



attending the duties of his office of chief examiner to the East India Company.

25. A young man, named Louis Alibaud, fired at the French king with a walking-stick gun, as the king was passing in his carriage from the Tuileries. No injury was done, the ball lodging in the roof of the carriage. When Louis Philip was congratulated on his escape, he is reported to have said, "Henry IV. escaped twenty-two attempts of the kind, and was murdered by the twenty-third!" Alibaud was an enthusiastic republican in poverty. He had no accomplice, and was tried by the court of peers, July 8, and guillotined on the 11th.

30. Death of James Madison, one of the leading men of the United States in the infancy of the republic. He succeeded Mr. Jefferson in the presidency.

July 6. In a letter inserted in the *Dublin Pilot*, Mr. O'Connell developed the plan for "The General Association of Ireland." Its objects were—1. To procure by law a complete municipal reform in Ireland, on as large and effectual a basis as that originally proposed by the ministry. 2. To secure by law such a settlement of the tithe question as shall be fully satisfactory to the people of Ireland. In a second letter, he strongly urged the people to rally round the Melbourne ministry, and the government of lord Mulgrave in Ireland.

8. ENGLISH CHURCH REFORM.—Lord John Russell explained in the commons the government measures for the reform of the English church, and which were founded on four reports that had been made by the ecclesiastical commission, consisting of the principal bishops and ministers of state, and who had been first appointed under the ministry of sir R. Peel, but continued by his successors. These measures in their full scope went to a new arrangement of dioceses and their revenues; to the creation of two new bishoprics; to the appropriation of the redundant revenues of the deans and chapters to the improvement of poor livings, and to the diminution of non-residence and pluralities. Only one of the four bills intended was brought forward, namely, that respecting the sees. The house seems to have been taken by surprise, and the bill was read a second time without opposition or special notice. At this stage, the radicals evinced such a determined hostility to the ministers' scheme of church reform, that they were only able to carry the established church bill (see *Aug.* 20th) during the short remainder of the session. The lords eagerly adopted it, and in the commons it was supported by sir R. Peel and Mr. O'Connell.

15. Mr. Warburton moved for a select

committee to consider the case of Catherine Robson and Isabella Ainslie, claiming to be the heirs of Samuel Troutbeck, a merchant of Madras, who died in 1785, and whose property, which, in 1814, amounted to upwards of 140,000*l.*, had been taken possession of by the crown. Mr. Troutbeck had bequeathed his property to charitable uses in Wapping, but, owing to some defect in his testamentary disposition, the will was declared invalid by lord Eldon. Motion negatived.

DANISH CLAIMS.—Mr. Clay moved in the commons for a select committee to inquire into these claims still remaining unsatisfied. It was opposed by the chancellor of the exchequer on the authority of the law officers of the crown, and negatived. What are called the Danish claims are the claims made by British subjects on account of losses sustained by them through the measures resorted to by the Danish government, in retaliation for our sudden attack upon Copenhagen in 1807, when, without any declaration of war, we seized the Danish fleet, having previously also laid an embargo on all the Danish vessels in the Thames, which, to the number of three hundred, were afterwards sold by us with their cargoes, and produced to the Treasury a sum of nearly 1,200,000*l.* sterling. This proceeding was sought to be justified by the ministers of that period on the ground that the Danish fleet would otherwise have been delivered over to, or fallen into the hands of, the French. The Danes endeavoured to avenge the attack on their capital, by the seizure of British property wherever they could find it. This seizure was not limited, as usual in the case of war between nations, to property *afloat*, but extended to all goods belonging to British subjects on the soil of Denmark, and even to the confiscation of book-debts owing to British creditors, and for which the Danish government gave discharges to their merchants. Our unprovoked attack on Copenhagen was alleged to be a justification of these violations of international law. The whole property of which British subjects were deprived, in these several ways, amounted to about 546,000*l.*, belonging to some hundreds of individuals. Their losses did not arise from negligence or want of prudence on their part, or in the ordinary practice of war, but solely from the irregular proceedings of the belligerents. Upon this was grounded their claims to compensation, and, after an interval of twenty or thirty years, their justice has been partially admitted. The claims for book-debts confiscated have been satisfied, and also the second class of claimants—those who claim for goods seized on shore—are expected to be liquidated. The third class, who claim

on account of ships and cargoes taken at sea, government appears inclined to resist as not of equal validity with the others. The entire amount of this last description of claims does not exceed 150,000*l*.

18. At the sale of the effects of the late Barry O'Meara, surgeon to Napoleon at St. Helena, some remains of the emperor fetched high prices. A few lines in cipher sold for eleven guineas; a lock of his hair, 2*l*. 10*s*.; one of his teeth, extracted by O'Meara, 7½ guineas.

25. After a long debate, the lords rejected the appropriation clause in the Irish church bill by a majority of 138 to 47. See *Aug*. 20.

26. Armand Carrel, editor of the *National*, and one of the political writers who distinguished himself by the part he took in the revolution of 1830, died of a wound he had received in a duel with the editor of *La Presse*. His remains received a public funeral, at which men of such opposite sentiments as Chateaubriand, Arago, Lafitte, and Beranger, were present. Orations and eulogies were delivered over his grave by MM. Thibaudeau, Scheffer, and Maillefer.

28. By a vote of the commons government is authorized to guarantee one-third portion of the last instalment of the Greek loan without the consent of Russia, that power having taken advantage of an informality to withdraw from the engagement in regard to this matter she had made in conjunction with England and France. Mr. Robinson moved an amendment, declaring the inexpediency of the proposed guarantee, on the ground that the treaty of 1832 had not been fulfilled on the part of Greece, which was supported by Mr. Hume, Lord Dudley Stuart, and Dr. Bowring; but on a division the original resolution was carried by a majority of 81 to 40. The interest on the sum to be guaranteed amounts only to 12,000*l*.

Died at Frankfort-on-the-Maine, in his 60th year, NATHAN MAYER ROTHSCHILD, the greatest millionaire of the present or probably any other age. The founder of the house of Rothschild, Mayer Anselm, was born at Frankfort in the Jews' alley. He was brought up with the view of making him a priest, but his occupation ultimately became commercial. He died in 1812, leaving to five sons a considerable fortune and unbounded credit. The five brothers have taken part in all the great loan transactions of England, France, Austria, and almost every country. Nathan Mayer, of London, was considered the chief of the family, though he was not the eldest. He came to England in 1800, where he acted as agent for his father in the purchase of Manchester goods for the continent. Shortly afterwards he had, through the

agency of his father for the elector of Hesse Cassel and other German princes, large sums placed at his disposal, which he invested with judgment, and his means rapidly accumulated. Mr. Rothschild married, in 1806, a third daughter of Mr. Cohen, by whom he had four sons and three daughters. It was the marriage of his eldest son, Lionel, to a daughter of baron Rothschild, that called the deceased to Frankfort: he was there attacked with illness and died. The corpse of Mr. Rothschild was brought to this country, and was buried in the cemetery belonging to the great German synagogue in Duke's place.

31. ADMISSION TO THE COMMONS' GALLERY.—For a long time past the public have obtained admission as spectators to the proceedings of the houses of parliament, only by written orders of peers for the lords, and for the commons by the speaker's order to a seat below the gallery, and either by a member's order, or by the payment of half-a-crown, to the gallery. By a regulation promulgated a few weeks since, the privilege of admission to the commons' gallery by the half-crown payment is abolished, and the written order of a member is made the only passport. The chief plea for this innovation is, that it is expedient to put an end, in all cases, to the receipt of fees or gratuities by the officers of the house; a laudable aim, but in practice it seems it has had the effect of restricting (though not to the inconvenience of those who do attend) the public accommodation. The gallery has been less frequented under the new than the old system; showing that a majority of people found it easier to pay their half-crowns for admission than to procure members' orders.

PARIS.—According to the newspapers, the increase of assassinations and street-robberies in Paris is quite dreadful. These crimes, until lately, used not to be included to any great extent in the delinquencies of the French capital. The agents of the police were never so numerous as now; but it seems they are so engaged in pursuit of political offenders as to have little leisure to attend to common felons. Among the recent victims is one Mr. Nagle, an Irish gentleman, who was murdered by night, as he was returning to his residence in the Faubourg St. Germain, by two ruffians armed with large knives.

*Ang*. 1. Mr. Walter moved for a select committee to inquire into the operation of the new poor law, particularly in regard to out-door relief and the separation of husbands from wives, and children from their parents. Lord John Russell showed that on a comparison of the years 1834 and 1836, there was a saving in expense. In the latter year amounting to 1,794,990*l*. This was thought satisfactory, and the



house rejected the motion by a majority of 82 against 46.

2. On the order of the day having been read for taking into consideration the lords' amendments to the Irish tithe bill, lord J. Russell rose, and, in an address which was loudly cheered throughout by the ministerial side of the house, moved that the further consideration of the amendments should be postponed to that day three months. The principle of appropriation, which had been rejected by the other house, his lordship described as that which gave its chief value to the bill. As for himself and his colleagues, "We are prepared," he said, "to stand upon that principle. We maintained that that principle was essential to a final settlement of the tithe question when we were out of office; and if, while we are in office, the house of commons think proper to affirm an opposite principle, amounting to a denial of that which we asserted, of course it will be our duty to resign, and to pretend no longer to govern the councils of this country." Lord John Russell was replied to by sir R. Peel, who concluded his speech by moving "that the lords' amendments be taken into consideration now." A long and animated debate followed, in which lord J. Russell's motion was supported by Mr. E. Denison, Mr. Hume, Mr. O'Loughlin, Mr. Sheil, and Mr. D. W. Harvey; and the amendment of Sir Robert Peel, by lord Sandon, sir James Graham, and lord Stanley. At half-past one o'clock the house divided, when the numbers for the original motion were 260; for Sir R. Peel's amendment, 231.

10. FREE CONFERENCE.—The houses of parliament being unable to agree on the amendments made by the lords in the Charitable trusts bill, a free conference was demanded by the commons. No free conference having been held since 1740 or 1757, the proceeding excited considerable interest. At a common conference there is no debate or verbal discussion of the points of difference: it is a mere ceremony ending in the delivery of a written paper by the messengers of the one house to those of the other. For any purpose that is answered by the meeting, the paper might be sent, as bills are, directly from the one house to the other. But at a *free* conference the parties, if so disposed, may discuss *viva voce* the points at issue. On this occasion, when lord John Russell, Mr. Hume, and some other members, met a deputation of the upper house, the conference passed off without debate; his lordship briefly stating from a paper, that the commons adhered to their dissent from the amendments of the lords, and the earl of Ripon having as briefly answered that they

would receive the serious consideration of the lords, the interview terminated. Mr. Hume, who had expected a debate, waxed wroth at this mode of proceeding, and viscount Melbourne was equally dissatisfied with the reserve of lord Ripon and his associates. A second free conference ensued on the following day, when there was a regular debate, which lasted upwards of an hour, but ended with the opinions of each party remaining unchanged. No agreement having been come to, the lords left the disputed bill with the commons.

17. Lord John Russell announced in the commons that the whole of the 246 convicts from Hampshire who had been transported for rioting in 1831 (see p. 90) had been pardoned, with the exception only of ten, who were undergoing punishment for offences committed in the colonies.

18. Lord Lyndhurst, in moving for a return stating what had been the fate of each of the bills introduced into either house of parliament in the course of the session, took an opportunity of entering at great length into the defence of the conduct which had been pursued by himself and his friends, and also of delivering a parting philippic against the general policy of the administration. The oration of the learned lord gave rise, of course, to some debate, in which lord Holland, lord Melbourne, and the lord chancellor took part on the one side, and the duke of Wellington on the other. The motion was agreed to.

A royal order of this date has been issued from the court at Windsor, for the moral discipline of the army. It takes effect in respect of soldiers enlisted on or after Sept. 1, 1836, and provides that soldiers who have completed seven years service shall be entitled to 1*d.* per day extra, and to wear a ring of lace round the right arm, if their names have not been entered in the Regimental Defaulters' Book for at least two years preceding. Further additional pay and more rings, under similar terms, at the end of 14 and 21 years' service.

20. PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.—Mr. Hume was in the middle of some inculpatory observations on the obstructive proceedings of the lords during the session, when he was interrupted by the entrance of the usher of the black rod to summon the members to the upper house to hear the prorogation speech of the king. His majesty congratulated parliament on the important measures of legislation that had been completed during the session. The diminution of crime in Ireland was adverted to, and confidence expressed that perseverance in a just and impartial government would tend to preserve tranquillity,

and to develop her great natural resources. The flourishing state of commerce and manufactures was admitted to be gratifying, provided it was accompanied with that prudence and caution essential to its permanence. Parliament was then prorogued in the usual form by the lord chancellor.

At the close of the session, complaints arose that it had not been so remarkable for effective legislation as in preceding years under the reform ministry. The Irish tithe and municipal bills, and the bill for governing charitable trusts in England by popular election, were lost through the inability of the commons to agree in the amendments of the lords. Among minor failures, was the loss or abandonment of bills for amending the English municipal act, for improving the court of chancery, for disfranchising the borough of Stafford, for removing the civil disabilities of the Jews, and for shortening the duration of county elections. Notwithstanding these miscarriages, important measures were matured, very creditable to parliamentary industry, and of which a brief outline may be given.

By the act for the *Commutation of Tithes* in England and Wales, provision is made for the final extinction within two years of the vexatious right of exacting tithes in kind, and for commuting them into a corn rent-charge, payable in money, according to the value of a fixed quantity of corn, as yearly ascertained by the average of the preceding seven years. If the parties cannot, under certain regulations, agree among themselves upon a permanent commutation before Oct. 1, 1838, commissioners are to proceed to make an award, founded upon the ascertained value of the tithe for the seven years preceding Christmas, 1835, which shall be binding for ever after. Thus the chief practical objection to tithe—namely, that it is a tax upon the application of capital to the improvement of the soil, is removed, the right hitherto enjoyed by the tithe-owner, of increasing his demands according to the augmented value or produce of the land, being taken away.

Next after this measure is another, which was less popular, called the *Established Church Act*, by which the heads of the church and certain ministers of state are incorporated for effecting a new distribution of episcopal dioceses and incomes. Under this statute the bishopric of Bristol is to be united to that of Gloucester, that of St. Asaph to that of Bangor; and that of Sodor and Man to that of Chester, and two new bishoprics are to be erected, one at Manchester and the other at Ripon. The income of the archbishop of Canterbury is to be reduced to

15,000*l.*; that of the archbishop of York to 10,000*l.*; that of the bishop of London to 10,000*l.*; that of the bishop of Durham to 8000*l.*; that of the bishop of Winchester to 7000*l.*; that of the bishop of Ely to 5500*l.*; that of the bishop of St. Asaph and Bangor to 5200*l.*; and that of the bishop of Worcester to 5000*l.* These reductions amount altogether to a sum of about 28,500*l.* per annum. The other bishops are to have incomes varying from 4000*l.* to 5000*l.* No ecclesiastical dignity or benefice is to be in future granted to any bishop to be held *in commendam*. These regulations, it is expected, will lessen translations by leaving only three or four sees objects of temptation. Acts were also passed for separating the palatine jurisdiction of Durham from the diocese for extinguishing the secular jurisdiction of the archbishop of York and the bishop of Ely in certain districts, and for imposing restrictions on the renewal of ecclesiastical leases. Finally, on the abandonment of the other church bills relative to residence and pluralities, and a new appropriation of the revenues of cathedral and collegiate churches, a bill was introduced for suspending for one year appointments to dignities in these establishments, and to sinecure rectories.

The *Marriage Act* was partly a measure of church reform. It puts an end to what has long been, of all the grievances of the dissenters, the one of which they have the most loudly complained. Instead of all persons, of whatever persuasion, being forced, as heretofore, in order to be legally married, to comply with the ritual of the established church, every person may now be married with whatever ceremonies he prefers, or if he pleases, without any religious ceremony at all, or any other form except that of making a declaration of the act before a public officer. Marriages may be simply a civil contract or religious ceremony, or both, and there are now four distinct modes by which they may be legally solemnised—the first three by licence, banns, or certificate, according to the rites of the church of England. In the fourth mode, they may be contracted in any registered place of religious worship, or in the office of the superintendent registrar.

The act for the celebrating of marriages was accompanied by another for *Registering Births, Deaths, and Marriages*, which both removes another of the complaints of the dissenters, and establishes a greatly-improved machinery for a matter of high interest and social importance to the community. The complete registry thus provided will be of great value as a statistical document, and an authentic record of facts not only precious to science, but of much



utility in the practical work of government and legislation. It is proposed that the object of this statute shall be partly effected through the agency of the guardians of unions appointed under the poor law amendment act, the registrars and superintendent registrars being nominated, and their districts determined by the several boards of guardians.

An inconsistency in judicial administration, which allowed counsel in civil actions, in misdemeanor, and in high treason, but not in *felony*, was removed, and all persons tried for felonies are allowed to make their defence by counsel. Even in cases of summary conviction, the accused may make their defence, and examine witnesses, by counsel or attorney. Another alteration in criminal justice repeals those parts of the existing law relating to persons convicted of the crime of murder, which directs that every such person shall be condemned to be executed on the day next but one after that on which the sentence is passed, and that he shall after judgment be fed with bread and water only; and enacts that, in future, "sentence of death may be pronounced after conviction for murder in the same manner, and the judge shall have the same power in all respects, as after convictions for other capital offences." This amendment of the law is declared in the preamble to be made "for the ends of justice, and especially more effectually to preserve from an irrevocable punishment any person who may hereafter be convicted upon erroneous or perjured evidence."

Of the purport of the other statutes of the session, the following is a brief enumeration:—

Aliens permitted to reside by a mere registration of their passports.

Lighthouses of the United Kingdom placed under the exclusive control of the Trinity House.

Provisions of the London act for the sale of bread extended to the country.

Period of granting ecclesiastical leases limited.

Encouragement given to building societies on the principle of friendly societies.

Postage of newspapers regulated.

Duties on newspapers, on certain classes of paper, and on East India sugar, reduced.

Fees allowed to medical witnesses attending coroners' inquests.

Poor law commissioners may require all assessments for the relief of the poor to be made on the net annual value of the property assessed.

Number of copies of every new book to

be presented to the universities reduced.

The number of *public general acts* passed in 1836 was 117; in 1835, 84; in 1834, 95, in 1833, 106. The total number of private bills which received the royal assent in 1836 was 193, exceeding by 33 the number in 1835.

The number of *railway bills* introduced in the past session was 55, of which 33 were passed. In 1835 the railway bills passed was 18; in 1834, 14; in 1833, 11. The total number of railway bills passed in the ten years ending in 1836 was 127.

22. The annual meeting of the British Association for the advancement of science commenced at Bristol. The marquis of Lansdowne, who was to have presided, was prevented by the illness and untimely death of his eldest son, the earl of Kerry. The chair was filled by the marquis of Northampton, and a great number of literary and scientific characters were present during the week's proceedings.

25. From an official return made up to this day, it appears that the number of English residing in France, exclusive of continental tourists who pass annually through it, is as follows:—Paris, Versailles, and St. Cloud, 22,500; Boulogne, 11,000; Calais, 6,000; other parts of France, 11,000.

31. REVOLUTION IN SPAIN.—During the past and present months Spain has been the scene of fresh tumults and insurrections. At Malaga, Cadiz, Seville, and Cordova, the Cadiz constitution of 1812 has been proclaimed and provincial juntas established, wholly independent of the queen's authority. On the 3rd a movement commenced in Madrid; but it was put down and the capital declared in a state of siege. But on the 12th the insurrection became more serious, and a regiment of provincial militia doing duty at St. Ildefonso demanded the constitution of 1812. They forced themselves into the apartments of the queen-regent in spite of the remonstrances of the French and English ambassadors, and obtained from her a promise of the acceptance of the constitution. This produced a revolution in the metropolis. Isuritz, the prime minister, made his escape, reached Lisbon, and from thence proceeded to England. General Quesada, the military governor of Madrid, was not so fortunate, being taken by the populace about three miles from the capital and savagely put to death. Ultimately, the constitution was proclaimed by the queen-regent, subject to the revision of the cortes, and a new ministry of decided liberals formed, comprising the following indi-

viduals :—Calatrava, president of the council and minister of foreign affairs ; Gil de la Cuadra, minister of marine ; J. M. Lopez, minister of the interior ; Rodil, minister of war ; Landero, minister of justice ; Mendizabal, minister of finance. Arguelles refused to take office, but promised to support the ministry. The new government commenced with vigour. A forced loan to the amount of 2,000,000*l.* was sought to be raised ; a conscription of 50,000 men was called for, to send against the Carlists ; the property of emigrant Carlists was confiscated, and the example of France and Portugal was proposed to be followed, by the extinction of the remaining moiety of tithe, leaving the clergy stipendiaries of the state or dependant on voluntary contributions. Early in the ensuing year (see Feb. 24) some modifications in the constitution of 1812 were proposed and adopted by the cortes.

**Sept. 7. RESIGNATION OF FRENCH MINISTERS.**—The revolutionary movement in Spain, introduced great confusion into the French cabinet, already embarrassed by the question of intervention or non-intervention. M. Thiers and his colleagues were urgently pressing for an effective co-operation against don Carlos, and the king was averse to the sending of a French army in his own name into Spain, when the news arrived at Paris of the re-establishment of the constitution of 1812, which threw everything into greater embarrassment than ever. The order of things and the form of government which France had recognised, and which she bound herself to support as a part of the Quadruple Alliance, no longer existed in Spain, where the queen-regent, with whom the treaty was made, was coerced, and a captive in the hands of an armed force. To reinstate the queen in the position she held when the alliance was formed, and to interfere with arms between the constitutionalists and liberals of different shades was never contemplated, and ministers easily obtained a public declaration from the king, that he would not interfere "against any part or section of the liberals in Spain." But when he was pressed to reinforce the French legion already serving as auxiliaries in Spain, and to adopt other and extensive measures against the Carlists, as the only mode of hindering the queen's government from being carried away by the torrent of revolution and anarchy, he gave a decided refusal, upon which M. Thiers and five of his colleagues resigned. The king's refusal excited considerable discussion in France and England as to his motives and intentions. Nearly a fortnight elapsed before the difficulties could be overcome in the appoint-

ment of a new ministry. On the 7th the formation of a *doctrinaire* cabinet was announced in the *Moniteur* as follows :—M. Molé, president of the council and minister for foreign affairs ; M. de Gasparin, minister of the interior ; M. Guizot, minister of public instruction ; M. Duchatel, minister of finance ; M. Persil, minister of justice ; vice-admiral Rosamel, minister of marine. The ministry of M. Thiers had lasted about nine months.

**9. REVOLUTION AT LISBON.**—A revolution in Spain is usually a prelude to a revolution in Portugal. But serious disagreements had arisen between the court and the cortes in August, owing to the appointment of prince Ferdinand, the husband of the queen, to the chief command of the army. This appointment had been incautiously made one of the marriage articles, and the prince was unwise enough to demand its fulfilment, notwithstanding its obvious unpopularity with the people and the military. The cortes were about voting an address against the army being under the command of a foreigner, when they were abruptly dissolved after sitting a week and before the supplies had been voted. The elections were unfavourable to the government ; and popular discontents were aggravated by the high price of provisions, and the alleged encouragement given to foreign manufactures. At the height of these discontents happened the revolution at Madrid. On the 4th a conference of ministers was held at the residence of the duke of Terceira, at Belem, to take into consideration the critical circumstances in which the country was placed by the changes in Spain. It was determined to defer the opening of the cortes, which had been fixed for the 11th, and to make some important changes in the military commands, substituting officers contented with the present order of things for such as were known to desire the democratic constitution of 1812, which was established that year, in imitation of Spain, by a military revolt at Oporto. These measures, however, with several others adopted by ministers, proved to be altogether inefficient, and at their very first demonstration the liberals carried everything before them. The arrival of a steamboat from Oporto, loaded with opposition deputies to the cortes from the northern provinces, appears to have been the signal for the movement. The steamer was welcomed by a prodigious discharge of rockets and pateraros, in defiance of the prohibition of such displays by the government. On the 9th, about an hour after sun-set, the clubs had arranged the proceedings, and a motley band of troops of the line, caçadores, and national guards, proclaimed the



constitution adopted by John VI. They then sang the constitutional hymn and appointed a deputation, headed by viscount Sa da Bandeira, to wait upon the queen. Donna Maria at first contemplated resistance, and ordered some of the regular troops to march against the insurgents, but the non-commissioned officers, exercising, as in Spain, the chief authority of their generals, refused to act, and also called for a change of government. Under such circumstances, the queen had no resource, save acquiescence. At five o'clock on the morning of the 10th, the national guards and their confederates, who had kept possession of the Rocio-square all night, were informed that her majesty had complied with all their wishes, and appointed the following ministry:—viscount Sa da Bandeira, minister of finance; count de Lumières, president of council and minister of war; Vasconcellos, marine; Silva Possos, interior; Veira de Castro, justice and ecclesiastical affairs. The duke of Terceira, the ex-minister Carvalho, and other individuals, who were apprehensive of popular vengeance, took refuge on board the British squadron lying in the Tagus. On the 18th, the peers addressed a formal protest to the queen against the revolution. It had the signatures of 27 out of 41, the total number of Portuguese peers. The duke of Palmella, the first in influence as ability, headed the protest. But the provinces expressed, by deputations, their approval of the proceedings in the capital.

15. **NEWSPAPER PRESS.**—This day, the reduction of the newspaper stamp-duty came into operation, when the price of the principal London daily newspapers was reduced from 7d. to 5d., which last is also the price of several of the weekly papers, though some have undergone an enlargement, and in price are only reduced 1d. Several newspapers are charged four-pence and four-pence halfpenny. The latter is the general price of the provincial papers, though a few are published at four-pence, and some, including the Liverpool papers, are charged five-pence. At Liverpool, a paper has been started, which is published three times a-week, and the *Manchester Guardian* which was previously published only once a-week, is now issued twice a-week. There was not a single provincial paper in England issued oftener than once a-week previous to the reduction of the stamp-duty. The old duty was 4d. with a discount of 20 per cent, which being 4-5ths of a penny on each sheet, made the net duty only 3d. and 1-5th of a penny. The new duty, on which there is no discount is 1d., and the actual reduction, therefore, is 2d. and 1-5th of a penny. The regular charge of a London paper is

now estimated at 3d., namely, a stamp-duty of 1d.; an allowance to the news-vender of 1d. and 1-9th of a penny; and the cost of the paper which, for a sheet similar to the one on which *The Morning Chronicle* is printed, costs about 8-9ths of a penny. Total 3d.; leaving 2d. (exclusive of the profits from advertisements) to defray the expenses of printing, editorial and literary aid, reporters, foreign correspondents and a number of other charges.

20. Government advanced the interest on exchequer-bills to 2d. per cent. per day.

22. Session of the provincial parliament of Lower Canada opened by the earl of Gosford, governor-in-chief. It was shortly afterwards dissolved in consequence of the spirited opposition manifested by the members. The grievances and disputes were of the same kind as those which have been noticed in the upper province (*May 28*). The House of Assembly demanded an elective legislative council; and that they should have a control over the crown property as well as the taxes. By way of enforcing their demands, they had refused to vote a civil list; and all the public servants, even the judges, had remained unpaid till the executive applied the funds at its disposal to the payment of official salaries.

26. **FOREIGN REFUGEES IN SWITZERLAND.**—This generally peaceful country is seriously embroiled with the government of the French king. The Swiss as a free and republican people, have naturally sympathised in the unsuccessful efforts that have been made for liberty by several nations on the continent, especially since 1830, when France, that now seems inclined to persecute the authors of all such attempts, set an example to them all, and was the main cause of hurrying many men into rash plots and ill-calculated insurrections. When these men were scattered and driven from their homes by the hand of power, they took refuge in considerable numbers in Switzerland, which became the general asylum of Savoyard, Italian, German and Polish refugees. With very few exceptions, these men were entirely destitute; such of them as possessed any mechanical art readily found employment, but the support of the vast majority fell heavily on the cantons, where they fixed their abode. The Swiss mostly behaved with honourable liberality to these emigrants, especially the democratic party, who for some short time had been gaining ground in several of the cantons. When a series of little revolutions, which began in 1831, ensued, and the Swiss of the same canton fought against each other as Aristocrats and Liberals, many of the Polish and Italian refugees joined the people, and, as military men, directed their movements in the field;

but it is likely that, but for the impulse of the Paris revolution, which gave Louis Philip a throne, these insurrections would not have happened; while there are proofs that French emissaries encouraged the animosity against the aristocratic party, who were suspected of inclining to the Holy Alliance. These divisions and contests in the cantons continued up to the present year, while the mass of exiles from Italy, Poland, and Germany, already disturbing and burdensome enough to the honest Swiss, had been augmented by fresh arrivals from France of disappointed republicans and St. Simonians. It was hardly possible that such a gathering of the malcontents of all nations should continue long congregated without attempting some revolutionary enterprise. In 1834, a correspondence had been opened with secret societies in Savoy and Piedmont, and in the spring of that year a corps of refugees assembled suddenly on the northern side of the lake of Geneva, and, crossing that water, invaded Savoy, with arms in their hands, thus exposing the country that had granted them hospitality to the chances of a severe reprisal. Their wild expedition, as already noticed in the events of that year, was driven back with loss and shame to the very gates of Geneva, where they attempted to provoke a rising of the people against the government in that city. Notwithstanding this seditious outrage, the Swiss did not withdraw their protection, though some of the Cantons very properly took measures to prevent the recurrence of such outbreaks, and kept the refugees from the frontiers of States with which the Swiss were living at peace. All these States had taken the alarm long before; but soon after this adventure, they began to make strong military demonstrations and to threaten Switzerland with a blockade. In March, 1835, nearly the whole of the line which Switzerland presents to the Rhine was watched by the troops of Baden, Wurtemberg and Bavaria; strong cantonnements of Piedmontese troops guarded the issues from the Valais, the Pays de Vaud, and Geneva, while the Austrians kept a jealous eye on the Italian Swiss Canton of Tesino, on the Grisons, on the country in the rear of St. Gall, and all other points where Switzerland touches their possessions in Italy. Before this precautionary cordon was formed, the majority of the Swiss Cantons voted what they considered a security to their neighbours for the future. They decreed that all foreigners settled in Switzerland, detected in establishing political associations, should be expelled; that all such as had participated in the disturbance of tranquillity in the neighbouring States should be

delivered over to the Swiss courts, and tried and sentenced. But this did not satisfy their neighbours, who would have had every refugee delivered up to them, or, at least driven out of Switzerland. In the latter case, as the only country through which they could withdraw was France, and as Louis Philip would allow them no resting-place there, all these exiles must have flocked to England, whither the king of the French had already sent some scores in a starving condition, escorted by his gendarmes to the straits of Dover. The Swiss replied to this high and threatening language in terms of national pride and defiance. Louis Philip, who by this time was as apprehensive of the refugees and conspiracies as any of his neighbours, joined the general cry, at first moderately and in a tone of advice and remonstrance. For this, it is only just to admit that he had some cause; since it is known, that a connexion existed, by means of secret societies, between the malcontents of his own dominion and the Polish and other foreign exiles in Switzerland, who were not strangers to the concerted insurrections which deluged Paris and Lyons with blood, and after their defeat some of the French conspirators found protection across the Swiss frontier. It was to sever these affiliations that the late prime minister, M. Thiers, threatened Switzerland with an "hermetic blockade," which roused the ire of the democratic cantons; but the general diet of the cantons gave assurances that they would adopt such precautions as were consistent with national independence, for preventing future machinations against the French ruler by the exiles they sheltered; accompanying, however, this assurance with the stinging accusation, that some of the conspiracies complained of had been hatched by an agent of the French ambassador. This charge was founded on the confessions of the spy himself, who had been arrested, and found while going about Switzerland, with a passport, signed by the duke of Montebello's chief secretary. The French court took fire at the imputation; their ambassador on the 26th delivered to the federal Diet an official note, intimating that all relations, diplomatic and commercial, were suspended, until satisfaction was made to France for the alleged affront. The British government offered its mediation through its ambassador. On the 17th October following there was an extraordinary meeting of the Diet, and after a lengthened sitting conciliatory measures were adopted. These were readily listened to by France, as the manufacturers of Lyons and the French wine-growers had already begun to feel the effects of an interruption of commercial



intercourse with Geneva, St. Gall, and Zurich.

Oct. 1. A vigorous assault is made on the lines of general Evans at St. Sebastian by the Carlists, who made an unsuccessful attempt to carry them. Both parties fought bravely. The Carlists charging down-hill, frequently sallied from their works in force, but each time were driven back at the point of the bayonet. The Westminster Grenadiers distinguished themselves, and a small corps of Lancers, under colonel Wakefield, made several brilliant charges; but a much more effective arm was the well-appointed artillery under the direction of colonel Colquhoun. Balls, grape-shot, shells, Congreve rockets, and grapeshells, were thrown with a precision that confounded the Carlists, and struck their recruits with panic. The conflict lasted twelve hours, and was not quite over till after dark. General Evans lost 376 men and 37 officers killed and wounded, and was slightly wounded himself. The loss of the Carlists was estimated at 1000 killed and wounded.

8. Louis Philip issued an ordinance remitting the sentences against political offenders, sixty-two in number. (See 993.) In most instances, however, this is rather a diminution of punishment than a free pardon.

17. Dutch states-general opened. In his speech from the throne the king regretted that, though he had devoted his exertions to bring about a final settlement of the Belgian question, no arrangement on that subject had yet been come to. The tone of the speech, however, was pacific. On the 20th the minister of finance brought forward the budget in the second chamber. He congratulated the house that, notwithstanding the "many cares and difficulties which were the inevitable consequences of the undeserved Belgian insurrection," the country in its domestic circumstances was still continually advancing in prosperity and moral strength. Some reductions of taxation were announced, and the expenditure for 1837 was fixed at 44,617,013 florins.

19. A commission gazetted, by which Thomas Drummond, under secretary of state in Ireland, colonel John Fox Burgoyne, Peter Barlow, professor of mathematics at the military academy, Woolwich, and Richard Griffith, esq., are appointed his majesty's commissioners for considering and reporting upon a general system of railways in Ireland. Another commission gazetted, appointing C. S. Lefevre, lieutenant-colonel Rowan, and Edwin Chadwick, commissioners for inquiring and reporting upon the best means of establishing a constabulary or rural police for England and Wales.

A meeting held in London, Charles Lushington, M.P., in the chair, for the purpose of forming a church-rate abolition society. The meeting was attended by Mr. Hume, Mr. Hawes, Mr. Ewart, Mr. D. W. Harvey, and other members of parliament. The object of the society is to effect the entire abolition of church-rates, without any charge upon the consolidated fund or land-tax; and to introduce the principle of upholding the edifices of the church and the expenses of worship either by pew-rents or voluntary contributions.

20. Norwegian storting opened. The king described the finances of the country as in a flourishing state, the surplus of revenue being considerable, notwithstanding the reduction of one half of the land-tax. In a general exposition of the condition of the kingdom, which was, at the same time, submitted to the house, a hope is expressed, that, although the negotiations which had long been carrying on with the English government, to prevail upon it to change its policy in regard to the timber-trade, had hitherto been fruitless, the local interests by which such a change had been opposed would soon be obliged to give way. The population of Norway seems to have increased since 1815 from 900,000 to 1,200,000.

A numerous meeting at the Mansion House, at which it was resolved to erect by subscription a statue to the duke of Wellington, in the vicinity of London bridge, in testimony of the gratitude of the citizens for the zeal manifested by his grace in the erection of that structure, and in the adjoining local improvements in the city and Southwark.

29. A foolish attempt at insurrection at Strasburgh, by Louis Napoleon Buonaparte, nephew of the deceased emperor, aided by two officers and some privates, hired to cry "*Vive l'empereur!*" It was instantly suppressed, and the young prince shipped off to America by the French government. On the following day an attempt, almost as absurd, was made by a party of hussars at Vendôme.

30. A vacancy in the Irish court of exchequer filled up by the appointment of the attorney-general, Michael O'Loughlin. He is the first catholic that has sat on the bench since the revolution of 1688.

A great number of meetings have been held during this month, chiefly for the purpose of constituencies giving a public reception to their representatives. This species of political audit seems to have grown almost into an annual usage since the reform act. A deputation waited on lord Brougham, to invite him to dine with the citizens of Edinburgh. This invitation he declined. His lordship had been ab-

sent during the late parliamentary session owing to indisposition. In reply to the deputation, he said, "My health, which has been broken by the labours of the session in 1835, when the legislative proceedings of the year were crowded into six weeks, has now been restored. But I have resolved to avoid all risk of a relapse."

*Nov. 1.* The municipal elections seem to have gone nearly in the same direction as last year, namely, in favour of the liberal party. In some places, as, for instance, in Bristol, where the conservatives last year had a majority, they have been beaten in the late election. On the other hand, even in many of the larger towns, the conservatives have this year approached nearer to an equality with their opponents; and, in a considerable number of the smaller boroughs, they have returned a majority of the new councillors. On the whole, the returns, as was to be expected and desired, present some appearance of the domination of mere party gradually giving way to other influences better fitted to secure the benefits of good municipal government. The accounts of the annual parliamentary registration are conflicting, but in this, too, the general result appears to be in favour of the ministerial party.

3. Queen of Portugal, in concert with the foreign ambassadors, and the late ministers, Palmella, Saldanha, and Carvalho, attempted to effect a counter-revolution. They mistakingly thought it was sufficient to announce a desire of change, to call forth a general demonstration in their favour. Nobody came to Belem to their assistance; the national guard, the populace, the regular troops, and the royal guard, all turned out in defence of the order of things which it had been attempted to overturn. Thus unsupported, Donna Maria confessed her error, and was pardoned, and Sa da Bandeira and his colleagues re-instated.

4. *DEATH OF CHARLES X.*—The late king of France expired at Goritz in Illyria, in the 80th year of his age. He was the fifth son of dauphin Louis, son of Louis XV. The title of comte d'Artois was given him in infancy, which he retained during his wanderings in Europe, and until the accession of his brother, Louis XVIII. The story of the princes is the story of our Charles II. and his brother James II. over again. In both cases we have the same catastrophe—the expulsion from the throne of the reigning family; but still a compromise with the hereditary principle, in the substitution of the nearest collateral branch which circumstances would allow to be selected. The duke of Orleans has been the French prince of Orange. Even in the character

of the Bourbons and Stuarts there is a singular coincidence. Charles II. and Louis XVIII. licentious wits; James II. and Charles X. licentious too, but honest bigots, and no wits. The parallel might have commenced earlier—between Charles I. and Louis XVI.—both beheaded, and their fate provoked by a similar train of incidents. The convocation of the legislatures forced upon the crowns by their pecuniary necessities, after government by royal prerogative had become to all appearance the settled constitution of the kingdoms—the immediate assumption of supremacy by the popular representatives—the long parliament in England—the national assembly in France—the extinction of the aristocracy—abolition of the church—trial and execution of the kings—establishment of republics—subjugation of the state to the power of the sword—sway of great military chiefs—and after all, the restoration, for a brief period, of the old order of things, and the old line of monarchs, completed the cycle of corresponding vicissitudes through which both countries respectively passed in the seventeenth and the nineteenth centuries. The late Charles X. was extravagant, as well as dissipated and fanatical. During his first residence in England the British government fixed upon Holyrood-house, which is a privileged place, for his abode, that he might be safe from his creditors. He had, like his predecessors, many mistresses. The gloomy moroseness that marked some parts of his conduct is supposed to have been occasioned by a vow made to one of them, Madame de Polastron, on her death-bed, that he would never after her decease have another mistress. He was only 45 years of age when he was so enchained, and he is said to have kept his engagement. After his expulsion from France in 1830, he was received in England, and allowed to pass without payment of customs; but, unable or unwilling to pay an old debt demanded, he again took sanctuary in Holyrood-house, whence he removed to the dominions of Austria. His death brings Louis Philip, in the estimation of some of his brother sovereigns, a little nearer to the rank of a legitimate monarch. Supposing the renunciation of the throne by the duke of Angoulême to be valid, there is only the young duke of Bourdeaux to withhold the allegiance of the royalists from the Orleans dynasty. It is, however, still a problem for the future to solve, whether the French king will be as successful in perpetuating his settlement as our William III. The throne of William of Nassau was not like that of Louis Philip—a throne of the barricades. It was not



by republican pledges reached over the heads of a generous and confiding people. Moreover, the Orange sceptre had the support of a powerful aristocracy, which was then the nation, and had not to conciliate a public opinion, which did not exist, but is now omnipotent, intelligent, and ever watchful to prevent the consolidation of injustice.

7. **BALLOON EXCURSION.**—An aërial excursion from Vauxhall Gardens across the Channel excited great interest. The balloon was of unusually large dimensions. In the car was upwards of a ton of ballast, exclusive of brandy, wine, and other refreshments. Passports had also been provided for the continent. At 26 minutes past one in the afternoon the balloon rose, having in the car Mr. Green, Mr. Monck Mason, and Mr. Holland. At a quarter after 4 the sea was seen; 12 minutes before 5 they left England one mile east of Dover Castle; and 10 minutes before 6 they were over France two miles east of Calais. The aeronauts continued their course during the night, observing the starry firmament above, and the lights from the various towns they passed over below. At 5 o'clock there was a slight appearance of day-break; ten minutes after five they were at their highest altitude, the barometer being at 20 inches. At a quarter after 6 daybreak was indescribably magnificent. The balloon landed in perfect safety at a village called Weilburgh, in Nassau, at half-past 6 o'clock on Tuesday morning, after a prosperous voyage of 17 hours, having traversed a space equal to about 480 English miles.

8. Session of the Belgian chambers opened. In his speech king Leopold congratulated the members in warm terms on the general prospects of the country. Among other important reforms which had been effected or were in progress, particular mention was made of the re-organization of the state universities, and the project of law on the primary and intermediate schools. The government, it was added, in conformity with the intentions which the chambers had more than once manifested, had directed its particular attention to the fine arts. The revenue was spoken of as in a highly satisfactory condition. In reference to Holland, "I have well-founded hopes," said his majesty, "that peace will not be interrupted; yet prudence makes it our duty to remember that the army of a neighbouring state is maintained on our frontier in a menacing attitude."

15. The agricultural and commercial bank of Ireland stopped payment. For several days previously there had been a general run on many of the Irish banks.

The number of registered partners in the agricultural bank exceeded 5000, but the amount of paid-up capital did not amount to 400,000*l.*, while the number of its notes out after the stoppage amounted to 800,000*l.*

16. Sir Robert Peel elected lord-rector of the university of Glasgow by a majority of 95. The numbers were, for sir Robert Peel, 316; for sir John Campbell, 221.

18. The Carlisle bank of Foster and Co. stopped payment.

The Gazette contained forty-six pages of advertisements of intended applications to parliament for bills for railroads.

23. Prince Polignac, who was prime minister at the revolution of 1830, and who, along with MM. Peyronnet, Chantelauze, and Guernon de Ranville, had been condemned to perpetual imprisonment, released and sent out of France. His colleagues had been previously set free.

24. The average price of wheat, which, at the commencement of the year was 36*s.* per quarter, appears by the official returns to be 60*s.* 4*d.* per quarter. The prices of provisions, and of coal and other articles, have been raised.

*Dec. 5.* The twenty-fourth congress of the United States opened. The questions of banking and the currency occupied a large portion of the message. President Jackson alluded to his speedy retirement from office.

21. Mr. O'Connell has met with a formidable opponent in the National Association, in the Rev. Mr. O'Mally, a catholic curate of Dublin, who repudiates the "instalment" system of the agitator in the redress of Irish grievances. Mr. O'Mally objects to the ministerial plan of converting tithe into a rent-charge, and, as the price of that conversion, giving thirty per cent. of the tithe to the landlords. Considering the poor the next claimants to the clergy themselves, he proposes that the whole tithe shall be converted into a provision for their relief, and the protestant clergy supported by the state. His resolutions to this effect were supported with ability, and only got rid of on the 21st by Mr. O'Connell moving that they be referred to a committee of the association.

Gomez, the enterprising partisan general of the Carlisle, after traversing Spain in various directions with surprising rapidity, and reaching on the 21st ult. the Spanish lines near Gibraltar, has succeeded in eluding all his pursuers, and on the 21st had regained the fastnesses of Navarre, where he again sets at defiance the queen's troops.

24. Died at Narbonne, aged 55, gene-

ral Mina, a distinguished Spanish constitutional commander, who first commenced his military career in Navarre against the French in 1810. The partisan laurels he won over Napoleon's troops had been tarnished by his late sanguinary proceedings against the Carlists, especially ordering the mother of Cabrera to be shot (p. 995). His health had long been bad, which, with the protraction of the civil war, may have helped to inflame the revengeful ferocity common to the natives of the Peninsula.

Bilboa, which had been invested by the Carlists, under Villa Real, and the siege pressed with great vigour, was delivered by the defeat of the besiegers by Espartero, assisted by British naval co-operation. The Carlists had been aided in their attacks on the city by the Polish, Italian, and other refugees, belonging to the French legion, lately disbanded by Louis Philip. Espartero entered Bilboa next day in triumph.

27. French chambers opened. A shot was fired at the royal carriage on its way, the ball passing through the back of the vehicle and narrowly missing the king. Meunier, the person who fired, was apprehended, with one or two other persons. The king proceeded to the chambers, and delivered a speech of considerable length, in which he alluded to the attempt upon his life. Meunier was afterwards tried, and condemned to the guillotine, but his sentence was changed into banishment for ten years.

ANNUAL OBITUARY.—J. Davidson, the enterprising African Traveller; he was murdered by the El Hareb tribe, in the district of Egeda, in Africa. Lieut-col. James Tod, 52, annalist of Rajpootana, and successful collector of Indo-Grecian antiquities. At Brussels, of pulmonary apoplexy, Thomas Walker, 50, magistrate of Lambeth-street police-office, and author of a periodical called "The Original." Mr. Walker was a native of Manchester, and the son of an extensive manufacturer in that town, who was tried for high treason at Lancaster early in the French revolution. Richard Valpy, 82, head master of Reading grammar-school. At Knaresborough, Edward Day, 101, one of the constables who arrested Eugene Aram, who was executed at York in 1758. (See Aug. 3.) Captain Felix M'Donough, author of the "Hermit in London." R. Seymour, who for five years supplied the clever caricatures in "Figaro in London." Mr. Seymour was subject to fits of despondency, in one of which he committed suicide. James Wood, 80, a banker and draper of Gloucester, as his father and grandfather had been. Mr. Wood was a bachelor, and, his habits being very penu-

rious, he accumulated great wealth; the personal property of the deceased amounted to about 900,000*l.*, the testamentary disposition of which became a subject of litigation, and has been recently annulled. James Horsburgh, 74, hydrographer to the East India Company. Barry O'Meara, author of a "Voice from St. Helena." Sir Francis Freeling, 73, secretary to the general post-office, a situation he had filled for nearly half a century. William Thomas, earl of Kerry, 25, M.P. for Calne, and eldest son of the marquis of Lansdowne. Sir William Cusack Smith, 73, second baron of the Irish court of exchequer, and the author of an able volume entitled "Metaphysic Rambles." At Paris, Thomas Reynolds, formerly a mercer of Dublin, and the United Irishman who betrayed to the government the plans of that formidable society, and which led to the arrest in 1798 of the leaders, at the house of Mr. Bond, and the frustration of the rebellion. Hon. H. A. B. Craven, 60, a retired major-general, and uncle to the earl of Craven. The deceased had been a considerable loser at Epsom races, and he terminated his existence by shooting himself through the head. Charles Henry, M.D., 60, one of the greatest scientific ornaments of Manchester, and a chemist of the highest reputation. Dr. Henry was found in the private chapel attached to his house, quite dead, having shot himself with a pistol. Suddenly at Manchester, supposed from the fatigue of travelling and over-excitement, Madame Malibran de Beriot, 28, the celebrated vocal actress: this admirable performer had rapidly risen into great popularity, and was considered unrivalled in "action and in song." She was twice married; first, at New York, to an old merchant, who almost immediately after was declared insolvent; and, second, to De Beriot, the eminent violinist. Charles Day, the wealthy blacking manufacturer: his property, exclusive of an estate near Croydon, is said to amount to 450,000*l.* Near New York, colonel Aaron Burr, 80, notorious for his fatal duel with general Hamilton in 1804, which drove him from the United States, and his Mexican expedition, which involved him in a trial for high treason. John Bannister, 76, the famous comedian: he took leave of the stage in 1815, after thirty-seven years of almost unequalled popularity. At Moffatt, John Loudon M'Adam, 80, the introducer of the system of road-making known by his name. Hon. George Augustus Lamb, 29, only son of viscount Melbourne. Matthias Attwood, 94, father of Matthias Attwood, M.P. for Whitehaven, and of Thomas Attwood, M.P. for Birmingham. Near Donegal,



Mrs. Charles Gallagher, 109; at the age of 59 Mrs. Gallagher gave birth to three children, two of whom survived her. (*Ann. Reg.* lxxviii. 222.) John Richardson, 70, the itinerant dramatic showman: though his first recollection of himself was that of a little urchin in the workhouse of Great Marlow, he died worth 20,000*l.*, most of which he left to two nephews and a niece. The earl of Rosslyn, 75, a general in the army; his lordship, like his uncle, the first lord Loughborough, (p. 664,) was something of a whig, though he took office under the Wellington ministry; he voted in favour of the catholic claims, but was active in his opposition to the reform bill.

A.D. 1837, Jan.—SPECULATION AND OVERTRADING.—The state of general prosperity which was noticed at the beginning of the past year was followed in the summer by those symptoms of mercantile reaction that have been usually observed periodically to succeed periods of great industrial activity and commercial adventure. The present revulsion had a similar origin, and was marked by similar characteristics, as those previously assigned to 1825-6; but its effects were more limited in this country, and less enduring, than the ruinous pecuniary desolation which signalized the former period. The chief distinction between the elemental causes of the two was the more limited agency of private credit and the greater share banking and overtrading had in producing the crisis of 1836-7. In the existing difficulties banking and speculation, especially of the American houses and of the Americans themselves, seem to have been the chief, if not the exclusive, sources of embarrassment. The recent partiality for joint-stock banks in England and Ireland grew out of the disasters which befel the banking firms in 1825; their destruction in that and former periods of commercial difficulty was considered to have arisen from the narrow basis on which they had been established, and that, by increasing their capital and the number of persons interested in their stability, their strength would be augmented. It was with the view of carrying out these views that the government prevailed upon the bank of England to surrender some of their immunities. Joint-stock banks were no longer restricted to six, but were allowed, like the banks of Scotland, to have any number of partners with direct agencies in London. Either from the absence of enterprise, however, or the torpor that naturally followed the convulsion of 1825, these encouragements produced little immediate effect; and from that year to 1833 only thirty joint-stock banks had been established. But in 1833,

the charter of the bank being renewed, divested of most of its exclusive privileges, either from this cause or more probably the revival of commercial enterprise, joint-stock banks rapidly multiplied. In 1833 there was an addition of ten; in 1834 of eleven; in 1835 of nine; and in the first ten months of 1836 there was the enormous increase of forty-five joint-stock banks. In Ireland, from 1834 to the end of 1836, ten joint-stock banks had been established, making an aggregate of eighty-two, exclusive of their branches, which are equivalent to so many banks, in all the chief towns of the two kingdoms. The connexion between these banking associations and the commercial difficulties of the present year formed a subject of controversy between Mr. Horsley Palmer, the leading advocate of the bank of England, and Messrs. Loyd, Salomons, and Ricardo, who leaned to the side of the country banks. In considering their respective statements, there seems to have been little more than the old degree of *particeps criminis* that distinguished former periods of pecuniary pressure. The crisis of the present year was the counterpart, as before remarked, in its leading features, of that which ten years had preceded it: in both the coming storm was preluded by a wild spirit of mercantile venture; but the embarrassments created were neither so generally diffused in, nor exclusively limited to England—they extended to Ireland and the United States, where a scene of monetary disorder presented itself wholly unexampled; bankers, importers, merchants, traders, and the government, being commingled in one mass of temporary insolvency. On both sides of the Atlantic difficulties, however, had a common origin—an *inordinate thirst of gain*; in America sought to be realized by land-jobs and overtrading in British produce; in England from excess of exports, railway projects, joint-stock companies for insurance, distilleries, cemeteries, newspapers, sperm-oil, cotton-twist, and zoological gardens. The mania for these share-undertakings was not limited to London, but was equally rife in Liverpool, Manchester, and Leeds. The banks fed the flame, though they did not kindle it. The first *light*, as Mr. Tooke has shown, always comes from the temptation of low prices and a tendency to higher, which, generating increasing consumption and demand, rouse into action the mercantile classes. No sooner are these symptoms abroad than the banks let go their paper, and instantly the commercial world is in a blaze. With the example of greater confidence in the banks, of readiness to afford advances to individuals, the sphere of private credit by bills

and open account is instantly distended to an enormous size. The scene is changed as if by magic. Mistrust, stagnation, and inertness, are converted into boundless confidence, mercantile activity, and speculative enterprise. Money, or what passes for money, is everywhere abundant; a community of sellers becomes one of buyers, and the wits of speculators and adventurers of every denomination set to work to absorb the seeming capital that overflows in every channel. That this was the cycle of the last as of former mercantile revolutions, is established by the state of prices and the issues of the banks. From 1834 to the summer of 1836 prices were on the advance, and speculation active. During the same period the provincial banks, both of England and Ireland, augmented their issues; and, though the bank of England did not contemporaneously increase its circulation of notes, it was enabled to aid individual enterprise by the vast amount of private deposits at its disposal, and of which of late years it has become the great reservoir. It is private balances, not an increase of its issues, that has, since 1826, constituted the active trading resources of the bank. In the use of their circulating capital, the directors have been accused of either undue eagerness to profit by its employment, or indiscreet precipitancy in their banking operations; of having afforded too much accommodation to individuals from August, 1835, to April, 1836, in order to facilitate the working of the West India loan of 1835; and then, when their own turn in that speculation had been served, of suddenly narrowing their discounts either to stop the efflux of gold to Ireland and the United States, or to enable them better to support the northern and central bank to which they were committed, and the American houses. In the interval mentioned, advances could be readily obtained on stock and other approved securities; but, as the summer advanced, discounts were abruptly refused to the largest and hitherto most respectable houses of Liverpool and London: trade in consequence became paralysed; prices suddenly dropped from 30 to 40 per cent., and the various share bubbles floated on the tide of the previous pecuniary redundancy rapidly collapsed from want of dupes or instalments. This is one view that has been taken of the monetary pressure. But it is just to observe that there is always a period in the movements of commerce when it is incumbent on the banks to interfere for their own safety and that of the community; and that this point is, when commerce has obviously degenerated into unprincipled adventures, not founded on the regular demands of

trade either present or future, but solely on the command of unstinted resources. It is often only by withholding the means that the speculative furor can be arrested; that traffic can be prevented degenerating into mere gambling and monopoly, by which all pecuniary bargains and contracts are deranged and prices forced up to an extravagant height, destructive of internal consumption and foreign commerce. At the same time, the exercise of this wholesome check is sure to be inconvenient to some, and will assuredly incur the censure of those parties whose miscalculations or mercantile avidity have tempted them into undertakings beyond their available resources. In the production of present difficulties PRIVATE CREDIT participated conjointly with the issues and advances of the banks, both in town and the country. These quicken into life, but, after that is done, private credit, by the multiplication of bills of exchange and the extension of current accounts, forms the great machinery of commercial operations. Of the expansive power of these agents and the mighty fulcrum they afford for speculation, the disclosures made by the great American houses of London—"the three W's" as they were termed—are a demonstration. The following account of these firms, published in June, 1837, presents features in the history of commerce deserving to be recorded. They are the amount of bills payable from June to December:—

Wilson and Co. . . .	£936,300
Wiggin and Co. . . .	674,700
Wildes and Co. . . .	505,000
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Total of acceptances	£2,116,000

An aggregate of acceptances to the amount of 2,116,000*l.* is upwards of one-sixth part of the aggregate circulation of the private and joint-stock banks of England and Wales, and about one-eighth part of the average circulation of the bank of England. Bills of exchange are not *cash*, but, when accepted by houses of undoubted credit, possess almost equal active force in the commercial world. The following are the amount of their shipments to America, which attest a not less speculative avidity in the United States than had prevailed in England:—

Wiggin and Co. . . .	£1,118,900
Wildes and Co. . . .	623,000
Wilson and Co. (dry goods account) . . . . .	364,900

If this is not overtrading, it is certainly audacious enterprise. It shows that there is in British and American merchants, as



well as in the seamen of the two countries, a spirit of hardy adventure that can be matched in no other nations. The above instances have been chronicled as examples of the commercial spirit of the age and of the magnitude of individual transactions, aided by the resources of private credit. In conclusion, it is satisfactory to mention that, within two years after, almost the entire of the pecuniary difficulties of 1836-7 had passed away, commerce had resumed its wonted channels and activity, and that the great houses mentioned above were in a condition to meet all demands against them, chiefly in consequence of the banks of the United States, the whole of which had stopped payment, having again resumed payments in specie and the regular transaction of banking business with their customers.

11. Sir Robert Peel delivered an inaugural address on his installation as lord rector of the university of Glasgow, and on the 13th he was entertained at a grand banquet given by the conservatives, at which nearly 3500 citizens were present.

23. Banquet in Drury-lane theatre to Messrs. Byng and Hume, the members for Middlesex. The pit was boarded over, and it was the first instance of a political dinner given in one of the large theatres. About 1500 persons were present, exclusive of a splendid galaxy of ladies, who occupied the boxes, and spectators in the galleries. Lord William Russell presided. In the course of his address to the electors, on his health being drunk, Mr. Byng remarked that he had represented them and their fathers for fifty years. He said that he was against the French war in 1793, both from "principle and policy; but that *ninety-ninths* of the country were in favour of it." This is important, as the testimony of a whig, and confirms what has been previously advanced on the popular auspices (p. 571) under which that great contest began.

31. PARLIAMENT opened by commission; the lord-chancellor read the king's speech. It announced the continuance of friendly relations with foreign powers; alluded to the successful naval co-operation afforded to Spain, to the late change in Portugal, and to the state of Lower Canada, to which last the attention of parliament was directed. A renewal of the inquiry into the operation of joint-stock banks was recommended; as, also, measures for the improvement of civil and criminal justice, and for giving increased stability to the established church, by promoting concord and good-will. Special attention was directed to the state of Ireland, involving a consideration of municipal corporations, the collection of tithes, and a legal

provision for the poor, which last was described as "a difficult, but pressing question." Addresses were agreed to in both houses almost without discussion. The duke of Wellington said he had seldom heard a speech less liable to objection. In the commons the chief novelty was a speech of Mr. Roebuck, accusing Mr. O'Connell of selfishness, and the whigs of pandering to the popular passions on one side, and to patrician feelings on the other. Before reading a copy of the speech, the speaker read two letters, one from the lord-chancellor, intimating that he had issued his warrant for the apprehension of a member of the house, Mr. Charlton, for a contempt of court, and another from Mr. Charlton, claiming his parliamentary privilege. A committee was appointed to inquire, which reported that there had been no interference with the privileges of the house, and Mr. Charlton was afterwards liberated from the Fleet, on expressing, by petition to the lord chancellor, contrition for his offence, which was an improper interference in a suit in chancery.

The following division of parties in the house of commons appeared just before the meeting of parliament:—

Radicals . . . . .	80
Liberals . . . . .	100
Whigs . . . . .	152
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Total ministerialists . . . . .	332
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Conservatives . . . . .	80
Tories . . . . .	139
Ultra-tories . . . . .	100
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	319

The speaker and six vacant seats made up the remaining seven votes.

Feb. 2. A numerous meeting at the Crown and Anchor, to petition parliament for the total abolition of church-rates. Next day 400 delegates from dissenting congregations and anti-church-rate associations from all parts of England walked in procession from the tavern to Downing-street, to have an interview with viscount Melbourne.

The parochial authorities of the city of London met and passed resolutions deprecating the introduction of the new poor law into the city.

6. Petition from Messrs. Hansard, printers of the house of commons, presented, complaining that an action for libel had been brought against them, in consequence of a passage in a printed report of a committee of the house on the state of prisons, in which it was stated that disgusting books had been found in

Newgate, printed by a bookseller, whose name was mentioned. It gave rise to a long conversation on parliamentary privileges. Next day the action *Stockdale v. Hansard* was tried in the court of king's bench. Lord Denman said that he was not aware the authority of the commons could justify the publication of a libel; an opinion which led to the institution of an inquiry into the extent of the privileges of the commons, in the printing and publishing their reports, votes, and proceedings; and, May 30, lord Howick moved resolutions to the following effect:—That, the power of publishing the proceedings of the house is essential to its functions; that it is the sole judge of the extent of its own privileges; and that, therefore, it was a breach of privilege to bring any action upon them before any court or tribunal; and that it was a contempt of parliament for any such court or tribunal to assume to decide such matter of privilege. These resolutions were passed by 126 to 26. Lord Denman gave notice of a motion respecting the resolutions, in the upper house, which he afterwards withdrew, the action in the court of law was suffered to proceed, and the judges have not yet given judgment. As the parliamentary papers are now openly sold, with the permission of the house of commons, and to the great convenience of many persons, this wider diffusion of their contents will probably render the commons more careful in future in giving circulation to any statements that may be detrimental to the character or interests of individuals.

7. Died at St. Gall, in Switzerland, in his 58th year, GUSTAVUS II., who, since his deposition from the throne of Sweden, had privately visited England and other countries under the name of colonel Gustavson. The ex-king had much of the wilfulness of his predecessor, Charles XII., and his ill-timed resistance to the power of Napoleon and strange treatment of sir John Moore showed that he was unfit to reign. The latter years of his life had been spent in great poverty, pertinaciously refusing any pecuniary aid, beyond his annuity of 96*l*. He had several children, one, a son, educated in the university of Edinburgh, and now a general in the Austrian service. He was succeeded on the Swedish throne by his uncle, the duke of Sudermania, who was succeeded by marshal Bernadotte, the reigning sovereign.

7. Lord John Russell introduced the bill for the amendment of the municipal corporations of Ireland. It differed little from the bill thrown out last session, the chief provisions of which have been described.

10. Lord de Roos, premier baron of England, is found guilty, by the verdict of

a jury, of cheating at cards, after a trial, which lasted during this and the whole of the preceding day.

13. Lord John Russell detailed in a committee of the whole house the government plan for introducing poor-laws into Ireland. He stated that the support of mendicants in that country fell almost solely on the humbler classes, and that the farmers and cottiers contributed in food from 700,000*l*. to 1,000,000*l*. annually. The chief feature of the ministerial bill is, that it contemplates a legal relief to all classes of the destitute, as well able-bodied as infirm; but there is to be no *out-door relief*; nor any relief except in workhouses. When the plan comes into full operation, it is calculated that Ireland will be divided into 100 unions, with a workhouse and board of guardians for each. The English poor-law commissioners, with the prospective addition of one to their number, are to introduce and control the scheme. It was favourably received by the house, though strenuously opposed by Mr. O'Connell on the second reading, as an inadequate measure. The progress of the bill was interrupted by the dissolution of parliament.

13. A trial, that commenced on the 10th, terminated, in which Dr. Morrison, the vender of a universal medicine-pill, obtained 200*l*. damages against the *Weekly Dispatch*, for a libel relating to a charge of insolvency; but the verdict was for the defendants on the issue relating to the dangerous nature of the pill.

14. Motion by sir William Molesworth, to repeal the statutes requiring a property qualification in members of parliament, rejected by 133 to 104.

16. Motion of Mr. C. Lushington, for the exclusion of bishops from parliament, lost by 197 to 92.

18. Six new steamers have been launched by the Austrian government, for the navigation of the Danube.

19. Champion, a mechanic, having been arrested on a charge of constructing a new infernal machine to destroy Louis Philip, hangs himself in prison.

20. Meeting at the Crown and Anchor, for commencing a subscription to erect monuments in London and Edinburgh to the memory of Muir, Palmer, Skirving, Gerald, and Margatot, who, forty-four years before, (see p. 584,) had suffered in the cause of parliamentary reform. Mr. Hume was in the chair. Colonel Thompson, Mr. D. W. Harvey, and fifteen other members of parliament, were present.

22. After three nights' debate, lord F. Egerton's motion for the abolition, instead of the amendment, of the Irish municipal corporations, rejected by 322 to 242.



23. Second reading of the Wills Bill moved by lord Langdale, who stated the changes which subsequently became law. Lords Brougham and Abinger expressed high approbation of the intended improvements. The new measure abolishes all wills by *parole*, or otherwise than in writing, excepting the cases of soldiers or seamen. Wills of personal estate must now be attested by two or more witnesses, in the same manner as wills of real estate; and all descriptions of property, real, personal, freehold, or copyhold, are placed on the same footing in the mode of devising them.

24. Mr. Walter moves for a committee to inquire into the operation of the poor-law act. An amendment is proposed by lord John Russell, for a committee to inquire into the administration of the relief of the poor, under the orders and regulations of the poor-law commissioners. Debate adjourned, and resumed on the 27th, when the minister's amendment for a committee, having power for a full inquiry, short of calling in question the principle of the bill, was agreed to.

24. SPANISH CONSTITUTION.—This instrument, which was first proclaimed at Cadiz in 1812, again by Riego in 1820, was for the third time introduced, and a draught of it presented to the general cortes, assembled for the purpose on the 24th, by a special committee appointed last year to revise its provisions. The following are some of the articles of the constitution, which the cortes has sanctioned and decreed to be that of the Spanish monarchy:—1. All Spaniards may print and publish freely their opinions, without submitting them to any previous censorship, by merely conforming to the laws: the trial of offences of the press belongs exclusively to a jury. 2. The same code of laws shall be enforced in the whole monarchy, and there shall be only one common law in ordinary civil and criminal prosecutions. 3. All Spaniards are admissible to all offices and public functions according to their merit and capacity. 4. Penalty of confiscation of property prohibited. 5. The nation engages to provide for the maintenance of religion, and the ministers of the Catholic faith professed by the Spanish nation. An amendment to this article was proposed, but failed, to the effect that "no Spaniard shall in future be prosecuted or tried for his religious opinions:" contrary to expectation, it was opposed by M. Arguelles. 6. The power of making laws resides in the cortes and the king. The cortes to consist of two legislative assemblies equal in rights and power—a senate and a congress of deputies. The number of senators to be equal to three-fifths of the deputies.

The senators to be chosen by the king out of a list of three candidates, presented by the electors of each province qualified to return deputies to the cortes. The number of senators chosen to be proportioned to the population of each province. They must be 40 years old, possessed of an independent fortune, and are chosen for life. To the congress of deputies each province to return one deputy, at least, for every 50,000 souls of its population. To be entitled to sit as a deputy, it is necessary to be a layman, 25 years of age, and possessed of the other qualifications required by the electoral law. The deputies are elected for three years. Any deputy accepting a pension, office, or commission, salaried by the government, is subjected to re-election. 7. The cortes to meet every year, the king having the power to convoke, adjourn, prorogue, and dissolve the congress; but, in the latter case, must assemble another cortes within three months. 8. The deputies to appoint their president, vice-president, and secretaries. 9. One of the legislative bodies not to meet without the other, unless it be to sit in judgment on the ministers. 10. The legislative bodies cannot deliberate in one assembly, nor in the presence of the king. 11. The sittings of both chambers to be public. 12. The person of the king sacred and inviolate, and not responsible. The ministers to be held responsible. The powers of the crown are analogous to those of the British sovereign: but he cannot, unless empowered by a special law, alienate or exchange any portion of the Spanish territory, nor admit foreign troops into the kingdom; nor ratify treaties of an aggressive nature or those of a special commercial nature, or which stipulate the affording of subsidies to foreign powers; nor can he contract marriage or permit it to be contracted by those in the line of the succession. 13. The civil list of the king and royal family to be fixed at the commencement of each reign. 14. The succession to the crown to be in the order of primogeniture, preferring, in the same degree, the older to the younger, and the male to the female branch. 15. If a queen regnant marries, her husband cannot take any part in the government of the kingdom. 16. The cortes may exclude from the succession persons they deem incapable to govern, or who have been guilty of any act for which they ought to lose their right to the crown. 17. Whatever the king may order to be done must be signed by the minister to whose department it appertains, and no public functionary shall execute any decree deficient in this authentication. 18. Ministers may be senators or deputies, and take part in the discussions of both cham-

bers, but can only vote in that to which they belong. 19. Independence of the judges and judicial administration are secured. The remaining articles relate to the election of deputations for the provinces, and municipalities for the towns, the constitution of the military force, and taxation. In the revised constitution no alteration has been made in the qualifications of the deputies, nor of the elective constituency, which continues regulated by the electoral law. A bill passed during this session of the cortes, providing that the orphans of all those who died "martyrs to the cause of liberty" since 1823 shall be adopted by the nation, and that the names of Riego, Empecinado, Torrijos, Mina, and some others, shall be inscribed in the churches.

*March 3.* The chancellor of the exchequer explained the principle of his measure for the abolition of church-rates. The management of church lands to be vested in eleven commissioners, five clerical and six lay, of whom three are to be paid commissioners. The lands of the bishops, and of the deans and chapters, to be vested in the commissioners; and by a better system of management, by getting rid of the present system of letting on fines, suffering the leases to run out and re-letting the lands on better terms, it is calculated 250,000*l.* per annum may be saved. This sum, aided by pew-rents, it is supposed will be sufficient for the purposes to which church-rates are now applied. In certain cases, the church tenants will be allowed to purchase the fee-simple of their holdings, subject to a fixed rent payable to the commissioners. A resolution embodying the principle of the scheme was submitted to the house. It was opposed by sir R. Inglis, sir W. Follett, and others, on the ground that it was making the church support itself, and, indirectly, a recognition of the "voluntary principle" in religion, and, therefore, subversive of the national church. The debate was adjourned, and resumed on the 13th and 14th, when the resolution was carried by 273 to 250. At a subsequent stage, a motion for introducing a bill founded on the ministerial plan was only carried by 287 to 282; and lord John Russell shortly after intimated that the bill, for the present, was abandoned, with the view of appointing a committee to inquire into the mode of leasing and managing the real estates of the church.

4. Martin Van Buren installed president of the United States. He succeeded general Jackson.

6. **AFFAIRS OF CANADA.** — Lord John Russell submitted to parliament a series of resolutions respecting Lower Canada, rendered necessary by the discontented

and agitated state of the province, and the refusal of the colonial legislature to vote the supplies of money requisite to the administration of justice and the carrying on the government. The resolutions stated in substance, that no supplies had been voted since Oct. 31, 1832; that the supplies up to the current year amounted to 142,160*l.*; that the house of assembly demanded an elective legislative council and the repeal of an act passed by the imperial parliament in favour of the North American land company; that in the present state of the province the granting of these demands is inexpedient; that it is advisable to repeal certain acts affecting trade and tenures, provided the colonial legislature would pass a law for the discharge of lands therein from feudal dues and services; that, for defraying the arrears due and the customary charges of the government, the governor be empowered to apply to these objects the hereditary, territorial, and casual revenues of the crown; that the crown revenues be placed under the control of the colonial legislature after supplies have been voted for defraying the charges of government; lastly, that the colonial legislatures of both the Canadas be empowered to remove the obstacles which impede the trade and commercial intercourse of the two provinces. Mr. Roebuck, and some other members, opposed the resolutions as an infringement of the Canadian constitution, and a coercing of the people. But, the violent proceedings of the colonial parliament calling for strong measures, they met with the general support of political parties. The debate was adjourned, and each resolution separately, and the entire series, agreed to, April 24.

7. Mr. Grote brought forward his annual motion for the adoption of the ballot in parliamentary elections, which was rejected by 265 to 153. In 1833 the motion was rejected by 211 to 106; in 1835 by 317 to 144; in 1836 by 139 to 51 votes.

8. Independence of the Texas country recognised by the United States of America. It drew forth a protest from the Mexican government.

9. The archbishop of Canterbury presents petitions against the ministerial plan for the abolition of church-rates, and expresses, on the part of 15 bishops, their decided opposition to the measure. A discussion takes place between the archbishop, the prime minister, and other lords; the petitions are ordered to lie on the table.

10. On the vote for the navy estimates, lord Mahon calls the attention of the house to the state of Spain, when lord Palmerston, in a long and able speech, defends the course of policy adopted by



his majesty's government. Mr. O'Connell disclaims any alliance between don Carlos and catholicism, and inveighs against the conduct of the king of the French.

11. Meeting at the Mansion-house in the city, to set on foot a subscription for the relief of the tenantry of the landowners in the north of Scotland, alleged to be in great distress. The lord-mayor presided. A large sum of money was subscribed.

Several bankers at Tours are convicted of having tampered with the persons in charge of the telegraph at that place, with a view to obtain early and secret information for stock-jobbing purposes.

16. Mr. Clay's motion for admitting corn at a fixed duty lost in the commons by 223 to 89.

23. Prior to the Easter recess, lord John Russell obtained leave to introduce a series of bills, which were passed into statutes, for the amendment of the criminal law. Among the objects embraced by these measures were a further diminution of capital punishments, the limitation of transportation, and the judicial power of awarding solitary imprisonment. The extreme penalty of the law has now been removed from all offences except seven, namely, treason, murder, rape, sodomy, burglary, robbery with violence, and arson with intent to commit murder. Death punishment is abolished in all cases of forgery.

27. Above 30,000 persons go from London to Greenwich, by the railroad, to the Easter fair.

28. Died at Brighton, in her 80th year, Mrs. Fitzherbert, who first married, in 1775, Edward Weld, esq., of Lulworth Castle, uncle to the late cardinal Weld. Her second marriage was with Mr. Fitzherbert, who died in 1781. She had no children by either husband. Her beauty, fascinating manners, and domestic virtues, next attracted the attentions of the prince of Wales, to whom, as already mentioned, (p. 776) she was married. Her disposition was frank, generous, indulgent, and hospitable. It is supposed that an annuity of 8000*l.* a-year reverts to the royal family by her death.

*Apr.* 5. Upwards of 8,000 looms unemployed in Spitalfields. Her majesty began a subscription for the distressed weavers by a donation of 100*l.*

7. Bishop of Exeter, on presenting petitions against the Poor Law Act, made a speech attacking that measure. It was defended by lords Brougham, Melbourne, and others. The duke of Wellington said,—"I avow at once that I supported the bill at the time his majesty's ministers proposed it; and I do not repent of what I did on that occasion in supporting it,

but on the contrary, I rejoice, in the part I then took, and I now congratulate his majesty's ministers on its success."

11. The earl of Radnor's bill, for the revision of the statutes of the universities of Oxford and Cambridge, thrown out without a division, on the second reading.

Trial of James Greenacre and Sarah Gale, which commenced the preceding day, at the central criminal court, for the murder of Hannah Brown, terminated. Greenacre was sentenced to be executed, and Gale, a woman with whom he cohabited, who was convicted, not of the murder, but of being accessory after the fact, to be transported for life. This case was productive of great excitement on the part of the public, from the singular atrocity of its circumstances. In the early part of the year, the head, trunk, and lower members of a female, having been found in three separate and distinct parts of the metropolis, great efforts were made, for some time without success, to discover the supposed murderer. The mutilated remains were at length identified as those of a female, whom Greenacre, tempted by some trifling savings she had accumulated as a laundress, had promised to marry; and on his apprehension, he confessed that he had killed her, by what he termed an accidental blow, given in passion, and had disposed of the body in fragments to conceal the murder. This happened at Walworth, in a small cottage of which Greenacre was the owner, and to which he had invited Mrs. Brown. On the night he was taken he tried to strangle himself, and was found in his cell by the gaoler, in a state of insensibility. He expressed regret that his life had been saved, and that he had not been permitted, as he said, "to go off." A more artful and cold-blooded villain never suffered at the Old Bailey. He met death with unshrinking nerve, and neither during his trial, nor at the place of execution, did a single expression escape him, of pity for his victim, or remorse for his crime.

12. Mr. Hume's bill, to vest the assessment and control of the county rates, in a board of 12 or 20, elected by the ratepayers, instead of the county magistrates, as at present, was rejected on the second reading in the commons, by 177 to 84. The county rates had increased, partly from lavish expenditure, and many members expressed themselves in favour of the principle of the bill, but opposed to its details.

13. Mr. Roebuck's motion, the object of which was to repeal the penny stamp on newspapers, rejected by 81 to 42. It was opposed by the chancellor of the exchequer, who, repudiated the idea

that government wished by the continuance of the tax to retain a control over the public press. The reduction of the duty to a penny (the amount levied in queen Anne's reign) had been completely successful, by greatly increasing the circulation of newspapers, and entirely crushing the illicit traffic in unstamped journals.

In this month died lady de Lisle, the eldest, and favourite daughter of the king, by Mrs. Jordan; also, the duchess dowager of Saxe Meiningen, mother of the queen.

May 1. Lord Morpeth brought forward a resolution for the settlement of the Irish tithe question. He reminded the house that he rose for the third time to explain the provisions of the fifth bill that within the last three years had been brought into parliament for the settlement of Irish tithes. This measure had no better success in the present than in the preceding session.

4. Mr. Pryme withdrew his motion in the commons, the object of which was an inquiry, by a royal commission, into the universities of Oxford and Cambridge, on receiving an intimation from Mr. Rice that inquiry was necessary, and that the crown, when it thought fit, had ample power to institute it. The subject was mentioned in the lords on the 8th, when the duke of Wellington said that the heads of the universities were considering the subject, with a view to alteration.

5. On lord Melbourne moving that the house go into committee on the Irish municipal bill, the duke of Wellington said, that the bill had a tendency to injure that church establishment, which it had been the policy of England for 300 years to uphold; and that as there were several other measures in the commons affecting the interests of the church, the house should wait till they had all the bills together. He therefore moved to postpone the bill to the 9th June, which was carried by 192 to 115. On June 9th lord Lyndhurst moved a further postponement to the 3rd July, and in the interval the king died. Parliament was soon after dissolved.

8. Louis Philip publishes an ordinance, granting, with certain exceptions, pardon to all persons convicted of political offences, and commuting the sentence of death pronounced by the court of peers on Meunier into one of banishment for 10 years. The amnesty gave much satisfaction to the French people.

9. Lord Brougham enters his protest on the journals of the house of lords against the ministerial resolutions respecting Canada, (See March 6.)

11. Sir Francis Burdett re-elected for Westminster. A large portion of the constituency of this city having become dissatisfied with the political conduct of their representative, in the abandonment of radical, and the adoption of conservative principles, called upon him to resign his seat, by resolutions passed at a public meeting. This call the baronet answered by accepting the Chiltern Hundreds, and again presenting himself as a candidate for Westminster. J. T. Leader, M.P. for Bridgewater, having been previously invited to stand, resigned in like manner, and opposed sir Francis Burdett. The result was looked to with interest, as a trial of political strength. On the close of the poll the numbers were, Burdett, 3460; Leader, 2874; majority, 586.

15. Brilliant successes were obtained about this period over the Carlists. On the 15th Espartero drove them from Hernani. On the 17th the British legion under general Evans carried Irun by assault, after a desperate resistance. Next day the fortress of Fuentarabia surrendered to the British troops.

16. Great Yorkshire meeting, held on Hartshead-moor, near Huddersfield, a requisition having been presented to the lord-lieutenant of the county, signed by upwards of 4000 householders, to consider the principles and operation of the New Poor Law. Most of the townships of the West Riding attended, accompanied with bands of music and flags, inscribed with mottoes; such as, "To smite the poor, is treason against God." "Can the christian man bastile the poor?" "Those whom God has joined, let no man put asunder." "He, that oppresseth the poor to increase his wealth, shall surely come to want." "The poor have a right to a subsistence from the land." The number assembled was estimated at near 100,000. Mr. Oastler, the Rev. J. R. Stephens, and Mr. Robert Owen, were the chief speakers. Resolutions were passed condemning the poor-law, and in accordance with the scriptural mottoes inscribed on the banners.

24. Being the eighteenth anniversary of the birth-day of the Princess Victoria, and also the day on which by act of parliament she attained her majority in the event of the king's death, a great number of congratulatory addresses were presented to her, and the day was kept as a holiday. There was an illumination in the evening, and a state-ball given at St. James's palace. Indisposition, and recent deaths in the families of the king and queen prevented the attendance of their majesties.

27. Three burglars are brought before the court of king's bench, on a writ of error, and claim their discharge on the



ground that they had been sentenced to be transported by an inferior court, when they ought to have been sentenced to be hanged. The court allows the validity of the objection, and the prisoners are liberated.

30. A meeting is held at Birmingham, to take into consideration a memorial signed by 12,000 or 13,000 workmen of that town, complaining of distress in consequence of the American failures.

The duke of Orleans, eldest son of the king of the French, is married at Fontainebleau to the princess Helena of Mecklenburg. During the rejoicings in consequence of this marriage a fortnight after, 24 persons were suffocated by the pressure of the crowd, in passing through the gates of the Champ de Mars.

31. A fancy fair is held in the Hanover-square Rooms, under the patronage of several ladies of the Romish persuasion, for the purpose of raising funds for the completion of a new Romish chapel at Brentwood.

The Prussian government has lately issued an order, that every functionary who shall be convicted of having been drunk, shall be instantly dismissed from the public service.

June 1. A ball at the king's theatre for the relief of the Spitalfields weavers.

7. Explosion of the boilers of a Hull steam-packet, with about 150 passengers on board, many of whom are killed or wounded.

9. A bulletin is published, announcing that his majesty has suffered for some time from an affection of the chest, which had produced considerable weakness.

10. The New York banks, and subsequently all banks throughout the United States, suspend payments in specie.

16. The revised constitution of the Spanish monarchy proclaimed. (See Feb. 24.) On the 19th the queen-regent published a general amnesty.

20. General Evans arrived in London from Spain, having retired from the command of the British auxiliary legion.

DEATH OF WILLIAM IV.—The tolling of the great bell at the Castle awakened the inhabitants of Windsor at 4 o'clock this morning, to the melancholy knowledge that their excellent sovereign was no more. At the usual hour the royal standard was hoisted on the Round Tower, but only to half its usual height, and shortly afterwards the streets were filled with groups of persons discussing the merits, and lamenting the loss of the good old king, of whom they were suddenly, though not unexpectedly, bereaved. His majesty expired at 12 minutes past 2 o'clock, on Tuesday morning, the twentieth instant, in the presence of

the archbishop of Canterbury, the dean of Hereford, &c. On Sunday he received the sacrament from the archbishop. He had expressed a wish to survive the anniversary of the battle of Waterloo on the 18th, and so far was gratified. But a distressing cough, extreme oppression in breathing, and very languid circulation, left little hope of recovery. He was lethargic, but conscious to the last of the presence of those on whom his affections were fixed. He was fervent in his expressions of religious hope, and just before breathing his last, faintly articulated, "Thy will be done." The queen had been unremitting in her attentions; was scarcely ever absent from the sick chamber, and for twelve days did not take off her clothes. The humblest person in the realm could not have exceeded her in condescension, and in the kind offices she rendered to her afflicted consort. A *post mortem* examination showed the nature of the disease; exhibiting a general tendency to ossification and decay about the heart, the lungs, and other vital organs. His majesty was in the 73rd year of his age, and had completed within a few days the seventh year of his reign. By his death, and consequent accession to the throne of his royal niece, the princess Victoria, the crowns of the United Kingdom and of Hanover are dissevered through the operation of the salic law excluding females from the Hanoverian kingdom, and which descends to the next heir, the duke of Cumberland. A parliamentary provision was made for queen Adelaide, now queen-dowager, in 1831, under which 100,000*l.* per annum is settled upon her for life, with Marlborough house and Bushy-house for residences. The king left by will 2000*l.* to each of his sons and daughters. A sum of 40,000*l.* to be reserved in virtue of a life-poileiy is vested in trustees.

PUBLIC STATUTES. I. TO VII.  
WILLIAM IV.

1 Wm. 4. c. 36. Alters and amends the law regarding commitments by courts of equity for contempt, and taking bills *pro confesso*.

Cap. 40. Provides that the undisposed residue of testators' estates shall go to the executors, as trustees, for the next of kin, unless executors were intended to take beneficially.

Cap. 47. Consolidates and amends the law for facilitating the payment of debts out of real estate.

Cap. 51. Repeals the beer duties.

Cap. 58. Regulates fees in superior courts.

Cap. 64. Regulates the sale of beer; allows beer to be sold by taking out a license from the excise; before, it was necessary to have a license from magistrates in session. (See p. 891, 955.)

Cap. 66. Consolidates the forgery laws: abolishes capital punishment, except in cases of forging wills, or powers of attorney to transfer stock. (By a later statute, death punishment is entirely abolished for forgery.)

Cap. 68. Limits liability of mail-contractors, stage-coach proprietors, and carriers for the loss or injury to packages delivered to them for conveyance, and the value or contents of which is not declared to them by the owners.

Cap. 70. For the more effectual administration of justice in England and Wales; empowers the king to appoint an additional judge in the courts of king's bench, common pleas, and exchequer; regulates the commencement and end of terms, namely, that Hilary term shall begin Jan. 11, and end Jan. 31; Easter term April 15, and end May 8; Trinity term, May 22nd, and end June 12; and Michaelmas term shall begin on the 2nd, and end on the 25th of November. The act regulates the holding of general quarter sessions of the peace; by providing that they shall be held in the first weeks after October 11, December 28, March 31, and June 24. (By a later statute, justices may alter time of holding the April sessions to between March 7, and April 22, to prevent their interference with the spring assizes.) The jurisdiction of the superior courts at Westminster is extended to the county palatine of Chester, and the county of the city of Chester, and to the principality of Wales, and these separate provincial jurisdictions abolished.

Cap. 73. Repeals so much of 60 Geo. 3, c. 8. as inflicts the punishment of *banishment* for the publication of a blasphemous or seditious libel a second time; but requires greater securities from the publishers of newspapers and political pamphlets.

1 Wm. 4, c. 8, sess. 2. Office of post-master-general of Ireland abolished, and united to that of Great Britain.

Cap. 22. Extends powers of 13 Geo. 3, c. 63. relative to the examination of witnesses by interrogatories in India, to all British colonies, and to the judges of the several courts therein, and the courts at Westminster.

Cap. 25. Civil list act; the disbursements of the civil list divided into five classes, for which the allowances are as follow:—Their majesties' privy purse, 110,000*l.*; salaries of his majesty's household, 130,300*l.*; expenses of his majesty's

household, 171,500*l.*; special and secret service money, 23,200*l.*; pensions, 75,500*l.*; total, 510,000*l.*

1 & 2 Wm. 4, c. 11. Makes a provision for the queen in case she survive the king, by granting her majesty a life annuity of 100,000*l.*; with Marlborough house, and the rangerhip of Bushy Park.

Cap. 13. Prohibits the growth and culture of tobacco in Ireland.

Cap. 17. For the better government of Ireland, lord lieutenant may appoint lieutenants of counties; who, with their deputies, shall have the same powers as governors or deputies had heretofore. Deputy lieutenants to possess a freehold qualification of 200*l.* per annum.

Cap. 19. Duties on candles repealed, and the makers put on the same footing as melters of tallow.

Cap. 30. Equalizes the wine duties; for the produce of the Cape of Good Hope, 2*s.* 9*d.* per gallon; all other wines, 5*s.* 6*d.*

Cap. 32. Makes important alterations in the game laws. Defines "*game*" to include hares, pheasants, partridges, grouse, heath or moor game, black game, or bustards. Dispenses with qualifications, and allows every certificated person to kill game, liable to the ordinary proceedings in case of trespass. Certificated person may *sell* game, (game was not before saleable,) and take out licenses to deal in game.

Cap. 33. Authorizes the advance of 500,000*l.*, in exchequer bills, for the promotion of public works in Ireland.

Cap. 37. Abolishes the truck system, and prohibits the payment in certain trades of wages in goods, or otherwise than in the current coin of the realm.

Cap. 56. Establishes the "court of bankruptcy."

Cap. 60. Regulates parish vestries.

2 Wm. 4, c. 9. For the establishment of fever hospitals, and the prevention of contagious fevers in Ireland.

Cap. 10. For the prevention of the spasmodic or Indian cholera in England (see p. 911).

Cap. 17. For amending the law relative to the sub-letting of land in Ireland. Lessees sub-letting, without the consent of their landlords, not to have any remedy for the rent or occupation of the land. On failure of the payment of the rent by the lessee, the landlord may give notice to sub-tenants to pay their rents to him, which payment on receipt will discharge all parties.

Cap. 34. Consolidates the coin laws.

Cap. 41. For the relief of the Irish clergy who are distressed, owing to the combination against the payment of tithes; lord lieutenant, empowered, on petition, to



make advances to clergy not exceeding two-thirds of the amount of tithes in arrear, nor exceeding 500*l.* to one individual.

Cap. 45. Parliamentary reform act (see p. 919).

2 & 3 Wm. c. 62. Abolishes punishment of death for stealing in a dwelling-house and for cattle-stealing. Persons transported, not to have a *ticket of leave*, or receive remission of punishment, unless, if transported for seven years, they shall have served four; if transported for fourteen years, till they shall have served six; or if for life, have served eight years. Convicts not eligible to hold property till pardoned.

Cap. 71. Shortens the term of prescriptive rights, and makes alteration in the old rule of law as to "time immemorial." No right of common shall be defeated after thirty years' enjoyment; in claims of right of way, use thereof for twenty or forty years sufficient; the use of light to any house or building enjoyed for twenty years, becomes indefeasible, unless shown to have been by consent.

Cap. 75. Regulates schools of anatomy and the supply of anatomical subjects; inspectors to be appointed; bodies of murderers prohibited to be dissected, such to be ignominiously buried within the precincts of the prison.

Cap. 111. Abolishes certain sinecures in the court of chancery; in lieu of such patronage the retiring pension of the lord chancellor, augmented from 4000*l.* to 5000*l.* per annum.

Cap. 116. Fixes the salaries of the judges as follows:—to the chief justice of king's bench (since reduced) 10,000*l.*; of the common pleas, 8000*l.*; to the chief baron, 7000*l.*; to each puisne judge, 5000*l.*; to the lord chancellor of Ireland, 8000*l.*; to the chief-justice of king's bench, Ireland, 5074*l.*; of the common pleas, 4612*l.*; of the chief-baron, 4612*l.*; and to each of the Irish puisne judges, 3688*l.*, to be in lieu of all fees. Salary of lord lieutenant of Ireland to be 20,000*l.*

3 Wm. 4. c. 15. Gives to the author, or his assign, of any tragedy, comedy, farce, or other dramatic entertainment, the sole right of representing, or causing the same to be represented, in any part of the United Kingdom, for the term of twenty-eight years absolutely, or during his life, if he survive that period.

3 & 4 Wm. 4. c. 23. Repeals duty on receipts for sums under 5*l.*, and reduces duty on advertisements in newspapers from 3*s.* 6*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*

Cap. 27. Limits actions and suits relative to real property; abolishes all real actions except writs of dower, *quare impedit* and ejectment; and limits period for

recovery of land or rent to twenty years.

Cap. 37. Relates to Irish church (see p. 937).

Cap. 41. Improves administration of justice in privy council, by the appointment of a "judicial committee," consisting of the lord-chancellor, chief-justices, and other judges; and also transfers appeals from vice-admiralty court to privy council.

Cap. 42. Effects improvements in judicial administration; empowers judges to alter mode of pleading in superior courts; limits actions of debt on specialties; abolishes wager of law; empowers jury to allow interest on debts; extends the power of arbitrators under submissions which are rules of court; abolishes all holidays in courts of justice except Sundays, Christmas-day and the three following days, and Monday and Tuesday in Easter week.

Cap. 44. Abolishes capital punishment for breaking into a dwelling-house and stealing therein; substituting transportation.

Cap. 73. Abolishes slavery in the British colonies, and provides compensation for the slave-owners (see p. 938).

Cap. 83. Requires banks issuing notes payable to bearer on demand to make quarterly returns of the amount of their notes in circulation.

Cap. 85. Renews charter of East India company for effecting an arrangement with the East India company and the better government of India (see p. 939).

Cap. 98. Renews charter of the bank of England (see p. 939).

Cap. 103. Regulates labour of children in the mills and factories of the United Kingdom. No person under eighteen years of age to work in the night, that is between half-past eight o'clock in the evening and half-past five o'clock in the morning; nor to work more than twelve hours in one day, or sixty-nine hours in one week; and one hour and a half per day to be allowed for meals. Employment of children under nine years old prohibited except in silk mills. Holidays to be allowed. Inspectors of factories appointed. Children not to be employed without certificate from medical man of health and fitness. Children to attend schools, to pay for which there may be a deduction from their weekly wages not exceeding 1*d.* in the shilling. Inspectors to make annual reports to secretary of state.

Cap. 104. Makes freehold and copyhold estates, in all cases, assets for payment of simple contract as well as specialty debts.

Cap. 105. Amends law of dower

Cap. 106. Amends law of inheritance.

4 Wm. 4. c. 15. Reforms the king's exchequer; offices of auditor, tellers, and

clerk of the pells, abolished, and new officers, consisting of comptroller-general with a salary of 2000*l.*, an assistant-comptroller, chief clerk, and other clerks and assistants, substituted under the appointment of the treasury. All public monies hitherto payable into the exchequer to be paid into the bank of England; and bills of exchange drawn on any public officer or department, and accepted, payable at the bank. Treasury may establish rules for keeping accounts of public departments.

Cap. 19. Repeals inhabited house duty.

Cap. 24. Reduces in future the amount of pensions granted under 57 Geo. 3. c. 65; pensions to the first lord of the treasury, secretaries of state, chancellor of the exchequer, first lord of the admiralty, president of the India board, president of the board of trade, not to exceed 2000*l.*; nor shall such pension be granted unless office has been held for not less than two years and not more than four, such pensions to be payable at the same time; pensions to chief secretary for Ireland and secretary-at-war not to exceed 1400*l.* each, and offices must be held not less than five years; joint secretaries of the treasury, first secretary of the admiralty, vice-president of board of trade, pensions not to exceed 1000*l.*, and offices must be held five years; under secretaries of state, clerk of the ordnance, second secretary of the admiralty, secretaries of the India board, not to exceed 1000*l.* for ten years' service. All such pensions only to be granted on application, accompanied with a declaration to the effect that the *private fortune* of the applicant is otherwise insufficient to maintain his station in life. No superannuation allowance to be granted to any officer or clerk under sixty-five years of age, unless upon certificate from the head of his department and from two medical practitioners, that he is unable from infirmity of body or mind to discharge the duties of his office. Act not to give an absolute right to these allowances, or to prevent dismissal of persons for misconduct without compensation.

Cap. 29. Facilitates the loan of money upon landed securities in Ireland, where the preamble states capital is less abundant, and interest higher, than in England, and landed property has become more secure than heretofore; by empowering persons who under any direction, trust, or power, are authorized to lend money in Britain, to lend the same in Ireland. Consent of persons interested, however, must be first obtained.

Cap. 30. Facilitates the exchange of lands lying in common fields.

Cap. 31. Reduces four per cent. stock

to three and a half; such new 3*l.* 10*s.* stock not to be liable to redemption till Jan. 5, 1840.

Cap. 32. Reduces the tonnage duties payable in the port of London.

Cap. 34. Abolishes the sixpence per month deducted from the wages of seamen for the support of Greenwich Hospital, and in lieu grants 22,000*l.* annually, payable out of the consolidated fund.

Cap. 35. For the regulation of chimney-sweepers and their apprentices, and for the safer construction of chimneys and flues.

Cap. 36. Establishes the central criminal court (see p. 955).

4 & 5 Wm. 4, c. 48. All business relating to the assessment and application of the county-rates shall be transacted in *open court*; of which notice shall be given two weeks before.

Cap. 59. Repeals duty on almanacs.

Cap. 67. Abolishes capital punishment for returning from transportation; substituting transportation for life.

Cap. 76. Poor laws amendment act (see p. 955).

Cap. 94. Empowers the crown by letters patent to invest trading and other companies, though not incorporated by royal charter, with authority to maintain and defend actions at law, in the name of one of their officers. List of members' names, with places of their abode, to be filed with clerk of patents, and be open for inspection.

Cap. 95. Empowers the crown to erect that part of South Australia which lies between the 132nd and 141st degrees of east longitude, and between the Southern Ocean and 26 degrees of south latitude, into a British province for the purpose of colonization. Persons resident in the colony to make laws, appoint officers, and levy rates and taxes; such laws to be laid before the king in council. Commissioners may be appointed for the purposes of the act. Lands to be open to purchase by British subjects, at not less than 12*s.* per acre; purchase-money to form a fund for conducting the emigration of poor persons from Britain or Ireland; emigrants, as far as possible, to be adult persons of the two sexes in equal proportion, and not above thirty years old; no emigrant to be allowed a free passage unless his family be also conveyed. Constitution to be established by the crown, when the inhabitants amount to 50,000. Money may be borrowed for conveying emigrants, and for defraying expenses of colony. Convicts not to be transported to the South Australian colony.

5 & 6 Wm. 4, c. 19. Amends and consolidates the laws relating to merchant



seamen. No seaman to be employed in any registered ship of the burthen of 80 tons and upwards without a written agreement, specifying the wages he is to receive, the capacity in which he is to act, and the nature of the voyage. Ships going abroad to have a supply of medicines, and seamen hurt in the service to have advice and medical aid gratis. Register-office to be established at the custom-house, under the direction of the Admiralty, of all the seafaring men of the United Kingdom. Ships to have apprentices proportioned to their tonnage. Parish boys of the age of thirteen, and of sufficient health and strength (of which the justices are to judge), may, with their consent, be bound apprentices in the sea service.

Cap. 23. Establishes loan societies for the benefit of the labouring classes; property of society vested in trustees; loan advanced to any individual not to exceed 15*l*., and no second loan to be advanced until the previous one has been repaid.

Cap. 25. Encourages voluntary enlistment into the royal navy, by limiting the period of service to *five years*, unless in case of special emergency, when they may be detained six months longer, with one-fourth increase of pay.

Cap. 36. The time of taking the poll in boroughs in parliamentary elections, in England and Wales, limited to *one day*, commencing at eight o'clock in the forenoon, and closing at four o'clock in the afternoon.

Cap. 78. Duration of the poll in elections in Scotland is similarly limited to one day. Under the Reform Acts two days were the appointed time.

Cap. 38. Effects greater uniformity of practice in the government of prisons in England and Wales; copies of prison rules to be transmitted to secretary of state, who may alter the same; inspectors, not exceeding five in number, to be appointed by secretary of state, with power to visit any prison, gaol, and house of correction in Great Britain.

Cap. 50. Consolidates and amends laws relative to highways, and directs that surveyors be annually elected by the parishioners, at their first vestry meeting for the nomination of overseers of the poor. Salaried surveyor may be appointed. Parishes may be formed into districts, and a district surveyor be chosen. When any railway crosses the highway, gates to be erected. Penalties as to nuisances, for not painting the names of owners of waggons, carts, &c., thereon.

Cap. 59. Persons wantonly and cruelly beating or otherwise ill-treating any cattle, (dogs included) or domestic animal, or improperly driving the same, whereby any

*mischief is done*, shall, exclusive of the damage, pay a fine not exceeding 40*s*. Keeping a place for baiting bulls, dogs, bears, or other animals, or for cock-fighting, subjects to a penalty. Cattle impounded must be fed; to prevent the re-sale of old and diseased horses sold to knackers or slaughtermen, they are required to kill them within three days after purchase, and in the meanwhile provide them with food.

Cap. 62. Empowers the lords of the treasury to substitute a declaration for the oaths taken in their department. Universities of Oxford and Cambridge and other corporate bodies may substitute a declaration in lieu of oaths. Churchwardens' and sidesmen's oath abolished, and oaths and affidavits of persons acting in turnpike trusts. Declarations substituted for oaths and affidavits required on taking out a patent; by acts as to pawnbrokers; but the penalties of such acts apply to declarations. Declaration substituted for oaths and affidavits required by Bank of England on the transfer of stock; and in suits in the colonies. Declaration in writing sufficient to prove the execution of any will, codicil, deed, &c. The practice of magistrates receiving voluntary oaths relative to matters not the subject of judicial inquiry is prohibited. Making a false declaration is a misdemeanor.

Cap. 65. Author of a lecture secured in the sole right of printing or publishing the same; printers of newspapers publishing lectures without leave subject to penalty. Act does not extend to lectures, of the delivering of which notice has not been given to two justices, living within five miles from the place, two days at least before the delivery of the same.

Cap. 76. Reform of Municipal Corporations (see p. 972).

Cap. 83. Amends patent laws (see p. 982).

6 & 7. Wm. 4. c. 30. Abolishes the law requiring that murderers shall be executed on the day next but one after that on which sentence has been passed, and directs that the judge shall proceed on conviction of murder as in all other capital offences.

Cap. 37. Regulates the sale of bread; imposes penalties for adulteration, fraudulent weights, and baking on Sundays.

Cap. 71. For commutation of tithes see p. 1006.

Cap. 76. Reduces stamp-duty on newspapers (see p. 997, 1008).

Cap. 85. Marriages in England (see p. 1006).

Cap. 89. Empowers coroners to summon medical witnesses, and to direct a *post mortem* examination; and the jury may require the coroner to summon additional evidence, if they think necessary.

Cap. 102. For facilitating the poll at

county elections, additional polling-places may be appointed upon petition from justices assembled in quarter sessions; sheriff to provide one polling-booth for every 450 electors.

Cap. 110. By 54 Geo. 3, c. 156, eleven copies of every published book are required to be gratuitously delivered to eleven public libraries. So much of this act is repealed as requires copies to be presented to Sion College, the four universities of Scotland, and the King's Inns library at Dublin.

Cap. 114. The anomaly in jurisprudence which allowed counsel in civil actions, in misdemeanors, and high treason, but not in felony, is removed, and all persons tried for felonies are allowed to make their defence *by counsel*, or attorney in courts where attorneys practise as counsel. In cases of summary conviction accused may make their defence and examine and cross-examine witness by counsel or attorney. Copies of depositions to be allowed the accused on payment of a sum not exceeding three half-pence for each folio of ninety words; application for such depositions to be made prior to the day appointed for the commencement of the sessions or assize.

7 Wm. 4, c. 5. Enacts that leasing-making, sedition, and blasphemy shall be punished in Scotland, as in England, and abolishes the punishment of banishment, to which any person convicted a second time of such crimes was liable.

#### FINANCE, TAXES, RETRENCHMENTS.

The policy of lightening the fiscal burdens of the people, which commenced in the last reign, was pursued in the present with augmented energy. The remission of the beer duties and the intire opening of the trade therein, were a popular beginning of king William's government. The inhabitited house-duty, which was alleged to be partially assessed, and which pressed heavily on the middle ranks living in towns, was abolished. The repeal of taxes that bore chiefly on the agricultural classes had formed an object of especial attention ever since the peace. The agricultural taxes repealed from 1815 to the end of 1835 amounted to 985,824*l.* per annum, and the amount of savings to the agriculturists by these reductions during this period were calculated to amount to 12,929,577*l.* But the most effective relief afforded to this interest accrued from the reduction in the poor-rate assessment under the operation of the new poor law act. Several duties that were either unequal in their operation, or impolitic in their tendency, were reduced. Of the former description was the duty upon coals carried coastwise, which acted in aggravation of the

natural disadvantage experienced by the inhabitants of those parts of the country where fuel is scarce; and of impolitic duties rescinded may be mentioned those on printed cottons, and the discriminating duties upon sugar and coffee, the produce of British India, together with a host of petty duties, of excise or customs, which were either repealed or reduced; as those on candles, starch, stone bottles, sweets, soap, tiles, hemp, cotton-wool, drugs, oil, and imported books. The abolition of the duty on almanacs and pamphlets, and its reduction on newspapers, were popular concessions to public opinion.

The alterations made in the tariff can only be deemed the commencement of a new and better system. Although England has been forward to advocate a *free trade* among nations, and is more deeply interested than any state in its universal adoption, she has only offered a tardy example to her neighbours. Her statesmen have harangued on the justice and utility of unrestricted intercourse, but have been slow to enforce its practical application. The corn-laws offer a prominent exception to the general theory of an unfettered exchange with neighbouring states. Not only is agriculture, but manufactures are protected, and the custom-house accounts exhibit a long array of articles on which duties are levied for the supposed encouragement of domestic industry. That these imposts are levied as protective duties, not as sources of public revenue, is attested by the fact that, in 1836, in a list of 190 articles and upwards, there were only eight—tea, sugar, tobacco, foreign spirits, wine, timber, coffee, and cotton-wool—that essentially contributed to the national income.

The *economical reductions* effected in this short reign were very extensive. At one sweep the expenditure of the navy was reduced 1,220,000*l.* The salaries of the king's ministers, ambassadors and consuls, the chief justices, the attorney and solicitor-general, and, in general, all salaries above 1000*l.*, were cut down. The charge for salaries in the various public departments, exclusive of army and navy, &c., since the peace, had been reduced nearly a million; it being 3,763,100*l.* in 1815, and 2,786,278*l.* in 1835. The reductions made in the eight years from 1827 to 1835 amounted to 2101 persons and 563,290*l.* of annual charge; or eight per cent. in number and nearly 17 per cent. in amount. Various savings were effected by the consolidation of offices and boards, as those of stamps and taxes. Previous to the settlement of the king's civil list, the royal expenditure underwent a searching investigation, and though no great saving was effected, its details were simplified by the transfer of



various charges unconnected with the regal dignity to the consolidated fund.

The progress of reduction in taxation since the war will appear from the subjoined statement, collected from the tables of Mr. Porter, of the yearly amount of the taxes imposed and reduced from 1815 to 1836:—

Year.	Imposed.	Reduced.
1815 . . .	£176,772 . . .	£222,749
1816 . . .	375,058 . . .	17,547,365
1817 . . .	7,991 . . .	36,495
1818 . . .	1,356 . . .	9,504
1819 . . .	3,102,302 . . .	269,484
1820 . . .	119,602 . . .	4,000
1821 . . .	44,842 . . .	471,309
1822 . . .	. . .	2,139,101
1823 . . .	18,596 . . .	4,185,735
1824 . . .	49,605 . . .	1,801,333
1825 . . .	48,100 . . .	3,676,239
1826 . . .	188,725 . . .	1,967,215
1827 . . .	21,402 . . .	84,038
1828 . . .	1,966 . . .	51,998
1829 . . .	. . .	126,406
1830 . . .	696,024 . . .	4,070,742
1831 . . .	627,586 . . .	1,588,052
1832 . . .	44,526 . . .	747,264
1833 . . .	. . .	1,532,128
1834 . . .	198,394 . . .	2,064,516
1835 . . .	5,575 . . .	162,877
1836 . . .	3,721 . . .	1,021,786

Mr. Porter shows that the amount of taxes repealed since 1814 exceeds the amount of those imposed since 1801 by more than  $6\frac{1}{2}$  millions (*Progress of the Nation*, ii. 306). This is so far satisfactory: but it appears that the share of taxed articles obtained by each member of the community has only increased in a trifling degree, not exceeding one-seventh; which is extraordinary, considering the vast increase in riches and in the means of purchasing during the last 35 years. The

stamp-duties and assessed taxes, which indicate the increase of property, have increased faster than the customs and excise, which indicate the increase of consumption. Wealth has accumulated, unaccompanied with a proportionate increase in the national disposition to expenditure.

The following is the income and expenditure of the United Kingdom during the present reign:—

Year.	Income.	Expenditure.
1830 . . .	£50,056,616 . . .	£49,078,108
1831 . . .	46,424,440 . . .	49,797,156
1832 . . .	47,322,744 . . .	46,379,692
1833 . . .	46,271,326 . . .	45,782,026
1834 . . .	46,425,263 . . .	46,678,079
1835 . . .	45,893,369 . . .	45,669,309
1836 . . .	48,591,180 . . .	48,093,196
1837 . . .	47,240,000 . . .	46,631,415

It is calculated that the customs and excise contribute 72 per cent. of the whole revenue; the stamps 14 per cent.; the assessed and land taxes 9 per cent.; and the post-office 5 per cent. The rate per cent. for which the gross revenue was collected in 1835 in Britain was  $6\text{ l. } 5\text{ s. } 6\frac{1}{2}\text{ d.}$ ; namely, customs  $5\text{ l. } 5\text{ s.}$ ; excise  $6\text{ l. } 13\text{ s. } 6\frac{3}{4}\text{ d.}$ ; stamps  $2\text{ l. } 10\text{ s. } 11\frac{3}{4}\text{ d.}$ ; taxes  $5\text{ l. } 7\text{ s. } 9\frac{1}{2}\text{ d.}$ ; post-office  $27\text{ l. } 12\text{ s. } 9\text{ d.}$ ; tax on pensions and salaries  $2\text{ l. } 2\text{ s. } 0\frac{1}{2}\text{ d.}$ ; crown-lands  $10\text{ l. } 2\text{ s. } 11\frac{1}{2}\text{ d.}$ . The rate per cent. at which the gross receipts for revenue were collected in Ireland, in 1835, amounted to  $11\text{ l. } 17\text{ s. } 2\frac{1}{2}\text{ d.}$ : namely, customs  $12\text{ l. } 5\text{ s. } 2\frac{1}{2}\text{ d.}$ ; excise  $9\text{ l. } 11\text{ s. } 6\frac{1}{2}\text{ d.}$ ; stamps  $5\text{ l. } 3\text{ s. } 3\frac{1}{2}\text{ d.}$ ; post-office  $39\text{ l. } 4\text{ s. } 2\frac{1}{2}\text{ d.}$ .

#### NATIONAL DEBT.

An account of the amount of the FUNDED and UNFUNDED DEBT, and the annual charge thereof, from January 5, 1815, to January 5, 1834:—

Year.	Funded Debt.	Charge of Funded Debt.	Unfunded Debt.	Charge of Unfunded Debt.	Total charge, Funded & Unfunded.
1816	£816,311,940	£30,458,207	£41,441,900	£3,014,003	£33,472,210
1817	796,200,191	29,842,014	44,650,300	2,196,177	32,038,191
1818	776,742,403	29,310,454	56,729,400	1,710,119	31,020,673
1819	791,867,313	29,934,294	43,655,400	2,143,476	32,077,770
1820	794,980,481	29,739,658	36,900,200	1,687,027	30,476,683
1821	801,565,310	30,149,920	30,965,900	1,769,219	31,719,139
1822	795,312,767	29,985,216	31,566,550	2,159,602	32,144,818
1823	796,530,144	28,596,866	36,281,150	1,335,424	29,982,290
1824	791,701,614	29,078,570	34,741,750	1,131,121	30,209,691
1825	781,123,222	28,372,206	32,398,450	1,087,284	29,459,490
1826	778,128,267	28,267,272	27,994,200	829,498	29,096,770
1827	783,801,739	28,556,903	24,565,850	831,207	29,387,110
1828	777,476,892	28,389,869	27,546,850	873,247	29,263,116
1829	772,322,540	28,245,534	27,657,000	949,430	29,194,964
1830	771,251,932	28,285,900	25,490,550	878,494	29,134,394
1831	757,486,996	27,674,754	27,271,650	793,031	26,467,785
1832	755,543,884	27,658,299	27,133,350	649,833	28,298,132
1833	754,100,549	27,703,433	27,278,000	659,165	28,362,598

In 1834 the total charge of the funded and unfunded debt was 28,510,708*l.*; in 1835, 28,494,827*l.*; in 1836, 28,505,675*l.*; and January 5, 1837, 29,234,873*l.*: so that the total reduction in the charge of the national obligations, from the peace, has been to the amount of 4,237,337*l.* Almost the whole of this reduction has been effected, not by the application of surplus revenue to the payment of the principal of the debt, but in consequence of the improvement in public credit, and fall in the interest of money since the termination of the war. In 1816 the 3 per cent. stock was only 58; in 1825 it had

risen to 94; and in 1834 it was at 87. This favourable state of the money-market enabled the chancellor of the exchequer to effect reductions in the amount and interest of exchequer bills, and important savings, by the conversion of stocks of a higher into a lower denomination. The savings made by the latter operations, since 1822, exceed one half of the decrease in the charge of the debt since 1815. The following is an account of the savings which have accrued to the public from the conversion of stocks from a higher to a lower rate of interest:—

	Capital.	Highest rate of Interest.	Lowest rate of Interest.	Saving.
	£.	£.	£.	£.
1822.				
Capital 5 <i>l.</i> per cents. after deducting 2,794,318 <i>l.</i> dissents	149,627,825	7,481,391	. .	1,197,022
Capital of the new stock, 4 <i>l.</i> per cents., including the bonus of 7,481,393 <i>l.</i> . .	157,109,218	. .	6,284,368	
1826.				
Capital 4 <i>l.</i> per cents., after deducting 6,149,246 <i>l.</i> dissents . . . .	70,105,403	2,804,216	2,453,619	350,597
Capital 3 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> per cents., the same.				
1830.				
Capital 4 <i>l.</i> per cents., after deducting 2,649,366 <i>l.</i> dissents . . . .	151,021,728	6,040,869	. .	755,110
Capital 3 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> per cent. . . . .	£150,344,051			
Do. 5 <i>l.</i> per cent. . . . .	474,374			
	150,818,425	. .	5,285,759	
1834.				
Capital 4 <i>l.</i> per cents.	10,622,911	424,916	371,800	53,116
The same capital in 3 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> per cents.				
Total Annual Savings .				£2,355,845

The increase in the charge of the national debt, subsequent to 1833, has been chiefly occasioned by the measures of public reform adopted by the legislature since that period; by the repayment of one-fourth of

the capital of the bank of England in 1834; by the 20,000,000*l.* West India loan in 1835-6; and by the creations of stock to answer debt due to savings' banks in 1836, 1837, and 1838.

#### Statement of the Funded Debt of the United Kingdom, January 5, 1837.

##### GREAT BRITAIN.

Debt due to the South Sea Company, at 3 per cent.	£3,662,784
Old South Sea Annuities, at 3 per cent.	3,497,870
New South Sea Annuities, at 3 per cent.	2,460,830
South Sea Annuities, 1751, at 3 per cent.	523,100
Debt due to the Bank of England, at 3 per cent.	11,015,100
Bank Annuities, created in 1756, at 3 per cent.	825,262
Consolidated Annuities, at 3 per cent.	357,166,317
Reduced Annuities, at 3 per cent.	125,141,486
Total, at 3 per cent.	£504,292,751



Annuities at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., anno 1818 . . . . .	10,725,232
Reduced $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Annuities . . . . .	66,273,320
New $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Annuities . . . . .	146,229,682
New 5 per cent. Annuities . . . . .	433,240

Total, Great Britain . . . . . £727,959,227

## IRELAND.

Irish Consolidated Annuities, at 3 per cent. . . . .	£3,004,253
Irish Reduced Annuities, at 3 per cent. . . . .	162,882
$3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Debentures and Stock . . . . .	14,757,160
Reduced $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Annuities . . . . .	1,045,712
New $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Annuities . . . . .	11,855,903
Debt due to the Bank of Ireland at 4 per cent. . . . .	1,615,384
New 5 per cent. Annuities . . . . .	6,661
Debt due to the Bank of Ireland, at 5 per cent. . . . .	1,015,384

Total, Ireland . . . . . £33,463,343

Total, United Kingdom . . . . . £761,422,570

Exchequer bills outstanding and unprovided for, Jan. 5, 1837 . . . . .	£28,155,150
Do. do. do. Jan. 5, 1836 . . . . .	29,007,950

## COMMERCE, SHIPPING, NAVIGATION.

Commercial prosperity, as remarked at the close of the former reign (p. 857), is not measured by the amount or excess of exports, but by the aggregate amount of imports and exports. The commodities a nation imports are as conducive to her interests as those she exports, and it is the magnitude of the two conjointly that indicates industrial activity and national enjoyment. The balance of trade, as it is called, may be against a country, as it often is in colonies and infant states, and yet that country be rapidly progressing in wealth, industry, population, and all the other elements of internal strength and social happiness. Reciprocal dependence is the surest bond of peace and friendly feeling, both among nations and individuals; and it is not to native resources, to an utter independence of neighbours, that each state ought to intrust its welfare, but to the greatest possible interchange of peculiar advantages, products, and conveniences. By impoverishing and exhausting others we do not enrich ourselves. Commerce that is wholesome is not gambling, but an interchange of benefits; and that intercourse is likely to be most lasting, the least alloyed with jealousy, the most conservative of international amity, and mutually the most advantageous, that resolves itself, as all commercial exchanges ultimately must do, into mere *barter*,—an equal and reciprocal exchange of commodities, without leaving any general balance on either side to be liquidated by money.

Another principle which the history of British commerce, since the beginning of the century, strikingly elucidates, is the

irrelevancy of the *money* or *declared value* of exports, as an index of commercial activity. This is merely the price of the commodities, which varies with the state of the market and the cost of production, and has no relation to the quantities exported. But the quantities are the chief point of interest—the only test of industrial prosperity. During the last forty years, the *real*—so called in the genuine mercantile spirit—or money value of our exports has been stationary or declining, but no one infers hence that commerce has declined; that it has not been prosperous in an unprecedented degree; that agriculture has not thereby been vastly promoted, and that it has not been the chief source of national riches, domestic improvements, and augmented employment for the population, shipping, navigation, roads, turnpikes, and conveyances of every description. These are the only results interesting to the statesman and legislator; the rest are merely the symbols of the custom-house, of no more importance in estimating the action of trade on the well-being of the community than the ancient tallies of the exchequer.

Having premised these explanations, we subjoin, in continuation of the tables of previous reigns, the following account of the trade of the United Kingdom to January 1837; exhibiting the *official value* of imports of foreign and colonial produce, and of British, Irish, foreign, and colonial produce exported:—

Years.	Exports.	Imports.
1830 .	£69,691,301	£46,245,241
1831 .	71,429,004	49,713,889
1832 .	76,071,591	44,586,741

1833	£79,823,092	£45,952,551
1834	85,393,586	49,362,811
1835	91,174,455	48,911,542
1836	97,621,548	57,023,867

The magnitude of foreign trade, and the enormous increase in the export of native produce, in the present reign, has never been exceeded. In the short term of seven years, from 1831 to 1836 inclusive, the exports increased 40 per cent., and the imports 23 per cent. The *actual or declared value* of exports in 1830 was 38,271,597*l.* in 1836, 53,368,571*l.* Of the enormous amount of 97,621,548*l.* of exports in 1836, only 12,391,711*l.* was foreign and colonial merchandise re-exported; the remaining 85,229,837*l.* consisting entirely of British and Irish produce and manufactures.

In 1836 trade was pushed to its maximum state. It was a year of speculation and over-trading both in exports and imports, and the consequence was the re-action of 1837 and the extensive mercantile failures already described in the occurrences of that year (p. 1015). The exports of native products and manufactures dropped in 1837 to 72,312,207*l.*; being a decrease of 12,917,650*l.* This check was of short duration. In 1838 pecuniary transactions with America were re-established by the resumption of specie payments by the banks of the United States, and British commerce again commenced its wonted onward movement.

Since the peace the SHIPOWNERS had complained of the decline of their interest; of the relaxations introduced in 1822 by Mr. Wallace, the president of the board of trade, in the navigation laws and colonial trade, and of the encouragement thereby given to foreigners, with whom it was alleged to be impossible to compete, owing to the greater cheapness abroad than at home of labour and the materials of ship-building. These apprehensions have proved illusive, and the liberal policy determined upon by the government has proved as beneficial to the shipping interest, as it was just and unavoidable towards other countries. The proportion of British to foreign tonnage entering the ports of the United Kingdom is greater now than under the more restrictive system; for the former, from 1826 to 1836, has increased 23 per cent., while the increase of the latter has been exactly one half that rate, or 11½ per cent.

The following statement of the number of vessels belonging to the British empire in each year from 1803 will show the progress of our mercantile navy. It is chiefly extracted from the valuable tables of Mr. Porter. During the war many vessels were employed in the transport service, and a greater number was requisite for a given amount of traffic than in peace.

The records of 1812 and 1813 were destroyed at the burning of the custom-house. In 1827 a new mode of registration was adopted; previously to that year many vessels that had been lost were still continued in the registry.

Years.	Ships.	Tonnage.
1803	20,893	2,167,863
1804	21,774	2,268,570
1805	22,051	2,283,442
1806	22,182	2,263,714
1807	22,290	2,281,621
1808	22,646	2,324,891
1809	23,070	2,368,468
1810	20,703	2,426,044
1811	24,106	2,474,774
1814	24,418	2,616,965
1815	24,860	2,681,276
1816	25,801	2,783,933
1817	25,346	2,664,986
1818	25,507	2,674,488
1819	25,482	2,666,396
1820	25,374	2,648,593
1821	25,036	2,560,503
1822	24,642	2,519,404
1823	24,542	2,506,760
1824	24,776	2,559,507
1825	24,280	2,553,682
1826	24,625	2,635,644
1827	23,199	2,460,300
1828	24,095	2,518,191
1829	23,453	2,517,000
1830	23,723	2,531,819
1831	24,242	2,581,964
1832	24,435	2,618,068
1833	24,385	2,634,577
1834	25,055	2,715,100
1835	25,511	2,783,600
1836	25,820	2,792,646
1837	26,037	2,791,018

Of the 26,037 vessels registered belonging to the empire, in 1837, there belonged to England 14,998; Scotland, 3244; Ireland, 1694; Guernsey, 90; Jersey, 245; Isle of Man, 265; British plantations, 5501: the number of men and boys employed in navigating the whole was 173,506.

The year 1836 was one of such general and unexampled commercial activity, that it seems to claim a more detailed illustration. A statement is subjoined of the declared value of British and Irish products exported that year, specifying the countries to which they were sent. The sum of 160,722*l.*, affixed to Prussia, expresses only the value of the commodities exported direct to Prussian ports; most British goods that find their way to Prussia pass through the Netherlands to the Rhenish provinces, or in still greater quantities are shipped to Hamburg and other ports in the north of Germany, whence they are forwarded by land-carriage to the interior. The statement of exports to Spain is like-



wise below her actual consumption; large quantities of British goods being either smuggled into that kingdom from Gibraltar, or transmitted by the way of Portugal.

*Amount of Exports in 1836.*

Russia . . . .	£1,742,433
Sweden . . . .	113,308
Norway . . . .	79,469
Denmark . . . .	91,302
Prussia . . . .	160,722
Germany . . . .	4,463,729
Holland . . . .	2,509,622
Belgium . . . .	839,276
France . . . .	1,591,381
Portugal . . . .	1,085,934
Azores . . . .	53,574
Madeira . . . .	52,168
Spain . . . .	437,076
Canaries . . . .	40,370
Gibraltar . . . .	756,411
Italy . . . .	2,921,466
Malta . . . .	143,015
Ionian Islands . . . .	109,123
Greece . . . .	12,003
Turkey . . . .	1,775,034
Syria . . . .	33,650
Egypt . . . .	216,930
Tripoli, Tunis, Algiers, Morocco . . . .	297,322
Western Coast of Africa . . . .	467,186
Cape of Good Hope . . . .	482,345
Cape Verd Islands . . . .	413
St. Helena . . . .	11,041
Mauritius . . . .	260,855
Arabia . . . .	16,358
Hindustan . . . .	4,285,829
Sumatra and Java, &c. . . .	234,852
Philippine Islands . . . .	51,728
China . . . .	1,326,388
Australia . . . .	835,867
British North America . . . .	2,722,291
British West Indies . . . .	3,786,453
Hayti . . . .	251,663
Cuba and Foreign West Indies . . . .	987,122
United States of America . . . .	12,425,605
Mexico . . . .	254,822
Guatemala . . . .	764
Columbia . . . .	185,172
Brazil . . . .	3,030,532
Rio . . . .	697,334
Chili . . . .	861,903
Peru . . . .	606,332
Guernsey . . . .	318,609

Total of Exports . . . . £53,368,572

Among the mercantile impulses of the present reign may be reckoned the intire opening, in 1834, of the trade with India and China. This traffic is still in its infancy, and it is impossible to assign the limits to which it may be carried by individual vigilance and enterprise. One public advantage has already resulted in

the reduction in the price and improvement in the quality of the tea consumed by the community. The future supply of cotton from the East will probably increase, and the repeal, in 1835, of the discriminative duties levied on sugar and coffee, the produce of India, for the benefit of the West India planter, and to the detriment of the consumer, holds out additional encouragements to oriental commerce.

The formation of the Prusso-Bavarian league, under the name of *Zoll Vercin*, appears to have been viewed with needless jealousy. Up to the present the regulations of the union have been fiscal only and limited to the removal of the obstructions that impeded the transit of merchandise through the adjoining states. During the first four years of the existence of the league the average amount of British and Irish commodities exported to Germany has increased as mentioned on a former occasion (p. 971, 881).

A peculiarity in the commercial history of the present and former reigns, which has been lately adverted to by sir William Molesworth (House of Commons, *March 13, 1839*), deserves to be remarked. Foreigners have taken in greater quantities than ever, supplies of our cottons, linens, woollens, and hardware. But, though the export of all these manufactured articles has largely increased, the export of them, either in an intermediate stage of manufacture, or in that of the raw material, has increased in a much faster proportion. Thus, take cotton for an example. Comparing the four years ending with 1828 with the last four years, the increase in the value of our trade in cotton goods has been 22 per cent., in cotton *yarn* 90 per cent., or four times as much. In comparing the last four years with the four years previous to 1828, the exports of hardware have increased 32 per cent. in value, those of *iron and steel*, 89 per cent., exceeding twice as much. The exportation of woollen yarn and of British wool was prohibited till the close of 1824. Comparing the average of the four subsequent years with those of the four years ending with 1838, it appears that, whilst the aggregate value of the exports of woollen manufactures had increased only 16 per cent., that of woollen *yarn* had increased 939 per cent., and of *wool* 1161 per cent.; that is, the ratio of the increase of the exports of the raw material, and of the half-manufactured commodity, had been fifty times as great as that of our once highly esteemed cloths. The trade in linens, upon the whole, has been the most flourishing of any; since 1828 it has increased in value 42 per cent., but even in this case the export of the half-manufactured commodity

has been more remarkable than in any other. The trade in *linen yarn* has grown up since 1832, in which year the aggregate value of linen yarn exported was only 8705*l.*; in the next year it was 72,006*l.*; in 1834, 136,312*l.*; in 1835, 216,635*l.*; in 1836, 318,772*l.*; in 1837, 479,000*l.*; and in 1838 it amounted to 655,000*l.*: an increase of about 50 per cent. per annum for the last five years. Almost the whole of this article was sent to France, where it was wrought up into cambrics, and the other finer descriptions of the linen manufacture, in which the French are unrivalled. Comparing the whole of our foreign trade, it appears that, on the average of the four years ending 1828, the actual value of our exports was 35,368,000*l.*; on the average of the four years ending 1838, 49,645,000*l.*; showing an increase of 5,277,000*l.* or about 14 per cent. But of that increase, 3,094,000*l.* worth was of cotton yarn; 2,000,000*l.* of linen and woollen yarn, wool, iron, and steel, making in all 5,000,000*l.*, or a little less than the whole increase of our exports in the last 10 years. While therefore the aggregate of our exports has increased 14 per cent., the increase of the exports of the primary materials of foreign manufactures has been 107 per cent., or eight times as much.

The explanation of this mercantile revolution will be chiefly found in the superior mechanical resources of England, especially in our unequalled spinning machinery, by which we are enabled to prepare, cheapest and best, the bases of the continental fabrics; while, on the other hand, in carrying through the ulterior processes of manufacture, requiring a greater proportion of manual labour, the foreign has an advantage over the English manufacturer in the lower rate of wages, the consequence of cheaper food, less burdensome taxes and rates, and, in many places abroad, an inferior standard of diet and domestic comforts.

The commercial intercourse with IRELAND exceeds in importance that carried on with any foreign state, and her rapidly increasing resources promise to lessen our future dependence on foreigners for the more essential elements of national strength. The circumstances of the two countries peculiarly suit them for an interchange of benefits—agriculture, or at least the raw material of agriculture, being the predominant field of industry in one, and manufacturing skill in the other; in one capital is abundant, in the other labour. The requisites that appear most essential for securing to both the greatest possible good appear to be, a steady perseverance in the impartial policy that has late-

ly marked the government of Ireland, affording the security of equal and efficiently administered laws to the persons and property of her inhabitants—allaying party and religious animosities—diffusing useful knowledge—encouraging the investment and creation of capital—improving internal communications—providing for her indigent poor—and putting at rest any uncertainty that may exist as to the permanent maintenance of the legislative union between the two kingdoms. Ireland labours only under the disadvantage of *youth*, in not being so old as England and Scotland in the pursuits of industry, in religious toleration, in social quiet, security, and amalgamation; in the excellence of her magisterial and judicial administration, and in the equity and wisdom of her political rule.

No account can be given of the general trade between Britain and Ireland subsequent to 1825, the commerce between the two countries being in that year assimilated, and, with the exception of grain, no register has been kept of the goods sent to, or received from, Ireland. The following exhibits the value of the merchandise Ireland exported to, and imported from, Britain during the first quarter of a century after the Union.

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
1801	£2,370,350	£3,537,725
1805	4,067,917	4,288,167
1809	5,316,557	4,538,305
1813	6,746,353	5,410,326
1817	4,722,766	5,696,613
1821	5,338,838	7,117,452
1825	7,048,936	8,531,355

The following is a comparative statement of the commodities exported from Ireland in 1825 and 1835:—

Commodities.		1825	1835
Cows and			
Oxen	No.	63,524	98,150
Horses	do.	3,140	4,655
Sheep	do.	72,191	125,452
Swine	do.	65,919	376,191
Wheat	qrs.	283,340	420,522
Barley	do.	154,822	168,946
Other grain	do.	23,832	39,637
Flour	cwts.	599,124	1,984,486
Potatoes	do.	—	223,398
Bacon and			
Hams	do.	362,978	379,111
Beef & Pork	do.	604,253	370,172
Butter	do.	474,161	827,009
Lard	do.	35,261	70,267
Soap and			
Candles	do.	42	—
Eggs	no. of	—	52,244,800
	crates,	—	2,275
	boxes	—	10,695
Feathers.	cwts.	—	6,432



Commodities.	1825	1835
Hides and Calf Skins No.	—	57,657
Wool } bales	—	33
lbs.	—	764,184
Flax and Tow cwt.	54,898	163,949
Lead and Copper ore do.	—	477,660
Spirits gals.	629,529	459,473
Beer do.	—	2,686,688
Cotton } yds. 10,567,458	—	1,039,088
manuf. } packages	—	6,588
Cotton yarn lbs.	—	13,458
Linen } yds. 55,114,515	—	70,209,572
boxes	—	134
bales	—	7
Silk manf. yds	—	8,400
Woollen do. do.	—	100,320
Other Articles value	—	369,294.
Foreign and Colonial Merchandise do.	—	110,489.

Estimated value of the above exports, in 1825, 9,243,210*l.*; ditto in 1835, 16,693,685*l.*; increase, 7,450,470*l.*

Estimated tonnage of Ireland in 1825, 510,245 tons; in 1835, 734,068 tons; increase, 223,823 tons. In 1835 Ireland exported agricultural produce to England to the value of 12,080,558*l.*, and took back in return English manufactures to the amount of 10,918,459*l.*

The trade with Ireland has increased faster and exceeds on an average of years that carried on with the United States of America. The following is the declared value of British and Irish produce and manufactures exported to the United States in each of the following years:—

1827	£7,018,272
1828	5,810,315
1829	4,823,415
1830	6,132,346
1831	9,053,583
1832	5,468,272
1833	7,579,699
1834	6,844,989
1835	10,568,455
1836	12,425,605

The following shows the relative commerce of the different ports of the United Kingdom; being the gross amount of customs-duty received during the years ending January 5, 1835, and 1837.

Ports.	1835	1837
London.	£10,697,263	£12,156,279
Bristol . .	1,072,106	1,112,812
Dover . .	60,897	47,437
Exeter . .	—	79,897
Gloucester .	131,105	166,187
Goole . .	—	60,317
Hull . .	682,008	801,628
Lancaster .	—	42,313

Ports.	1835	1837
Liverpool . .	3,846,306	4,450,426
Lynn . .	—	52,470
Newcastle . .	286,918	307,274
Plymouth . .	94,405	103,423
Portsmouth .	55,173	46,472
Southampton	46,825	49,139
Stockton . .	47,878	54,197
Sunderland .	65,284	78,126
Whitehaven .	86,063	88,291
Yarmouth . .	64,410	63,783
Aberdeen . .	54,581	58,673
Dundee . .	48,592	70,982
Glasgow . .	270,667	289,702
Grangemouth	—	25,728
Greenock . .	482,138	374,467
Port Glasgow	140,284	104,292
Leith . .	386,905	—
Belfast . .	289,024	366,718
Cork . .	198,089	230,904
Dublin . .	768,632	898,630
Galway . .	38,083	31,769
Limerick . .	136,910	146,222
Londonderry	87,469	99,652
Newry . .	51,083	58,800
Sligo . .	34,915	35,863
Waterford .	125,028	137,120

WAGES, FACTORIES, EMIGRATION, POOR-RATES, SAVINGS' BANKS, LUNATICS, BASTARDY.

It is likely the present reign will be hereafter reverted to as one of the most favourable in British history to the welfare of the industrious orders. Its great and manifold blessings can hardly be exaggerated. While vital reforms were being effected in political and social institutions, the condition of the people was unusually prosperous, and they had a greater command probably than in any former period of equal duration over the comforts and conveniences of living. During the whole seven years of the king's government there was not one failing harvest; all the crops were above an average, with the exception of that of 1831, which was nearly an average, and which very partial deficiency was amply compensated by the unusual abundance of 1835, that reduced the price of wheat to 39*s.* per quarter. The average price from 1830 to 1837, both inclusive, was only 55*s.* 3*d.* a quarter; about the average price of the eight years of peace and prosperity that preceded the war of 1793, and with which the present reign may be aptly compared. Clothing also became extremely cheap, which enabled the working classes not only to clothe themselves more decently and comfortably, but to wear articles of a more durable description than formerly. Calicoes are supposed to have fallen full two-thirds in price since the peace of 1815; linens, one-half; stout shoes, one third; the coarse

felt hats, for which labouring men used to pay 3s. 6d. fell to 2s., or have been superseded by silk hats. The reduction in the price of hardware has been enormous. Beer, tea, coffee, candles, and soap have been made more accessible to the community, either by greater abundance or the repeal of duties and removal of obstructions that impeded their sale to the consumer.

While articles of ordinary use fell in price, the rate of wages was kept up. There was no diminution in the means of purchasing. Some occupations certainly suffered, and were superseded, as that of the hand-loom weavers, by mechanical improvements; the fluctuations of fashion, also, wrought partial derangements, but generally there never was a period within the experience of the present generation when employment was more abundant, and when the wages of labour, taken in conjunction with the prices of every article that forms the expenditure of a working man, were so well calculated to ensure his comfort and independence.

Over this gratifying representation it is necessary to introduce some shading to render the social picture correct. The agricultural classes did not participate equally with the manufacturing in the general improvement of condition. In the benefits resulting from the low prices of clothing and food all shared; but this cheapness was accompanied with, and partly helped to produce, a scarcity of employment in the rural districts. The low price of wheat discouraged the application of capital to land, so that the increase of employment therein did not keep pace with the increase in the number of the people. For many years there have been symptoms of a growing redundancy of farm-labourers, manifested in a depression of wages, and consequent general discontent, as evinced by incendiary fires, the destruction of threshing machines, and other prædial outrages.

Another topic essential to a faithful elucidation of the state of the country at the beginning of 1837 requires to be noticed. Although the king's reign may be considered to have been the millenium of the industrious classes, it failed to effect any great amendment in the *common diet of the people*. Animal food, wheaten bread, and beer, still continued inaccessible to a large portion of the population of the United Kingdom. In Ireland potatoes it is well known are the staple food of the inhabitants. The government commissioners who reported on the state of that country in 1836, stated that agricultural wages varied from 6d. to 1s. a-day; that the average in general was about 8½d.; and that the

earnings of the labourers did not amount, on an average of the whole class, to more than from 2s. to 2s. 6d. a-week for the year round. The number of persons out of work and in distress during 30 weeks of the year was estimated at not less than 585,000, and the number of persons dependent upon them at not less than 1,800,000; making, in the whole, 2,385,000. The commissioners found that, while in Britain the agricultural families constitute little more than a fourth, in Ireland they constitute about two-thirds of the whole population; that there were in 1831 in Britain 1,055,982 agricultural labourers, and in Ireland 1,131,715; while the cultivated land of Britain amounts to about 34,250,000 acres, and that of Ireland only to 14,600,000. There are in Ireland, therefore, about five agricultural labourers for every two there are for the same quantity of land in Britain; and the actual produce of Britain exceeds by four times that of Ireland.

The backwardness and destitution of the Irish are more easily described than the remedies. But the food and domestic conveniences of some parts of Britain do not offer such a remarkable contrast to the condition of the sister kingdom, and we cannot, any more than the continental nations, boast of an entirely wheat-fed population.

In the northern districts of England, in the counties of Cumberland and Westmorland, the farmers work hard and subsist on very humble fare; their ordinary diet consisting of barley-bread, potatoes, milk, and a small quantity of bacon. Their industry and frugal living is very profitable to their landlords, who are thereby enabled to obtain much higher rents than their southern neighbours. Across the border, in Scotland, the condition of the agricultural population is not found to be more advanced. Rents have increased four-fold, but animal food and malt liquor continue out of the reach of the great body of Scottish husbandmen. The well-cultivated farms of East Lothian, Berwick, and Roxburgh, are so many manufactories, in which, the ploughmen, aided by horses and machinery, make plenty of corn and meat, but of which they do not partake. Their diet is oatmeal, mixed in water, or in milk, if they be allowed the use of a cow, and cakes made of barley-meal and pea-meal mixed together. Their lodging is equally mean. They are housed outside the farmyard in sheds like barracks; each family in damp, dark, single apartments, unless it has been divided with wooden partitions at the occupants' own expense; the walls in many instances not plastered; and, in all, the floor consisting of nothing but the bare ground, and often below the level of



the adjoining road, from which the rain-water may be making its way into the interior of the hovel, which is lighted with one or two windows, consisting of four of the smallest panes of the coarsest glass. The windows are mostly *built in*, so that they cannot be opened for fresh air. There is no cieling; nothing above but the bare rafters, and the thatched or tiled roof. Houses, or *boothies* as they are called, of this description, may be seen in all directions within five miles of Edinburgh. Capital has increased enormously, but the peasantry are scarcely better off than their grandfathers; have hardly more comforts or higher wages. The parochial schools are so defective, both in books and mode of education, that few agricultural labourers can either read or write with facility. Their ignorance, general discomfort, and severe toil, prematurely exhaust them, and make them short-lived.

It is in dress and outward appearance that the greatest improvements have been effected. The cheapness of manufactures enables a Scotch dairy-maid to clothe herself in a complete summer Sunday's dress for 20s. Her winter garb will cost a little more, from 25s. to 28s., and both suits, with care, will last considerably more than a twelvemonth. Making included, a ploughman may clothe himself decently on Sundays for less than 2*l.* 10s.; his working garb (mole-skin) costs about 16s., and, if to these be added a ploughing-coat and stout shoes, 10s. each, his whole bill to the draper and tailor will not exceed 4*l.* 6s.

In the principal towns of Scotland and England the different ranks of society on Sundays can hardly be distinguished by difference of attire. They all dress well, and little difference exists in the quality and shape of their costume. Men wear silk or beaver hats; coats of woollen cloth; waistcoats of cloth, silk, or velvet; shirts of calico or linen; hose of cotton, silk, or worsted; trousers of kerseymere, or other material, with silk or cotton stocks, shoes or boots, which form the general walking garb of all classes. There is a like approximation to uniformity in female costume. Stuffs, merinos, French cloth, muslins, silks, and satins, are generally worn, according to the season of the year. It was thought a great luxury in queen Elizabeth to wear silk hose, but, in king William's reign, maid-servants were frequently seen in silk dresses, with laced caps, and silk, velvet, Dunstable, or Tuscan bonnets.

The low price of books may be noticed among the beneficial changes affecting the masses of the nation. This has been partly caused by the practice of stereotyping and the application of steam in

press-work; the reduction in the price of paper and the cost of embellishments; and by publishers trusting more to an extensive sale than to high profits for a remunerative return. On this principle many useful compilations have been put forth; some of the standard works reprinted, and numerous cheap periodical publications established, that have contributed, aided by popular lectures of literary and scientific societies, very extensively to the intellectual improvement of the people.

The state most desirable to attain by the industrious orders is exemption from sudden vicissitudes. During the last thirty years the price of labour has been nearly stationary, both in skilled and unskilled occupations. The wages of labourers in husbandry, and of carpenters, bricklayers, masons, tailors, spinners, and plumbers in towns, were nearly the same in 1805 as in 1835. The alternations of misery and comfort they have experienced have been mainly produced by circumstances over which they had no control; namely, changes in the value of paper-money, fluctuations in the amount of employment from mercantile speculation, and sudden vicissitudes in the price of bread, either from the seasons or the artificial operation of the corn-laws. Parliament has applied a remedy to the currency, and the other sources of popular derangement are not less deserving of legislative attention. That in which the working classes have wrought the most detriment to themselves has been in the indefensible claims of the trade-unions; they drove the masters into counter combinations in their own defence, and the result of the struggle, as might have been predicted, was the discomfiture of the workmen, the dissolution of their societies, and reduction, in some instances, of the rate of wages.

The employment of children in MILLS and FACTORIES formed an anxious subject of inquiry in the present reign. During the last sixty years the domestic manufacture of the West of England, Lancashire, and the West Riding of Yorkshire, has been gradually yielding to the encroachments of capital and machinery. Manual labour could not contend, in many stages of manufacture, either in cheapness or execution, with these powerful competitors; the factories combining, on a great scale, all the resources of money and mechanical ingenuity. In 1835 the number of persons, of all ages, employed in the cotton, wool, silk, and flax factories, worked by steam and water, in England, was 298,693; in Wales, 1936; Scotland, 50,180; Ireland, 9564: making a total population in the United Kingdom of 355,373. Of this number, 158,555 were males and 196,818

females. Between the ages of 8 and 12, the number employed of both sexes was 20,588; between 13 and 18, 108,208; above 18 years old, 190,710. The employment of a greater number of females than males, and of so many children of a tender age, constitutes the most objectionable peculiarity of factory industry. Parliament has sought to protect the unfortunate juveniles, by prohibiting the employment of children under a certain age and limiting the hours of labour; and its efforts to improve their condition have not been wholly fruitless, as the writer had an opportunity of witnessing during a late tour in the manufacturing districts. Legislative interference, however, can only be looked upon as a temporary palliative; the most effective cure must be sought in the higher moral tone and intellectual culture of the male operatives, who ought to be the natural protectors of their wives and offspring.

A few statements are subjoined, elucidatory of the subjects of the present section. Great light has been thrown on the condition of the body of the people by the inquiries of parliamentary committees, and by the commissions on the poor-laws, factories, and the state of Ireland, and the results of whose labours are in course of being arranged and published by Mr. Porter in his "Progress of the Nation."

*Daily Wages at Greenwich Hospital.*

Year.	Carpenters.		Bricklayers.		Masons.		Plumbers.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
1729	2	6	2	6	2	6	3	0
1730	2	6	2	6	2	6	3	0
1735	2	6	2	6	2	8	3	0
1740	2	6	2	6	2	8	2	6
1745	2	6	2	6	2	8	2	6
1750	2	6	2	6	2	8	2	6
1755	2	6	2	6	2	8	2	6
1760	2	6	2	4	2	8	3	0
1765	2	6	2	4	2	8	3	0
1770	2	6	2	4	2	10	3	0
1775	2	6	2	4	2	10	3	0
1780	2	6	2	4	2	10	3	3
1785	2	6	2	4	2	10	3	3
1790	2	6	3	0	2	10	3	3
1795	2	10	3	0	2	10	3	3
1800	4	6	4	10	5	0	4	6
1805	4	6	4	8	5	0	4	6
1806	5	0	4	8	5	0	4	6
1807	5	0	5	0	5	0	4	6
1808	5	4	5	1	5	1	5	3
1809	5	8	5	2	5	3	5	9
1810	5	6	5	5	5	9	5	9
1811	5	6	5	5	5	9	5	9
1812	5	6	5	5	5	9	5	9
1813	5	6	5	5	5	9	5	9
1814	5	6	5	1	5	9	5	9
1815	5	2	5	1	5	3	5	5

1816	5	2	5	1	5	3	5	9
1817	5	3	5	1	5	3	5	9
1818	5	3	5	1	5	3	5	9
1819	5	3	5	1	5	3	5	9
1820	5	3	5	1	5	3	5	9
1821	5	1	5	0	5	1	5	7
1822	5	0	4	10	5	0	5	6
1823	5	0	4	10	5	0	5	6
1824	5	0	4	10	5	0	5	6
1825	5	9	4	10	5	6	5	6
1826	5	9	4	10	5	6	5	9
1827	5	8	4	10	5	6	5	9
1828	5	8	4	9	5	5	5	8
1829	5	8	4	9	5	5	5	5
1830	5	6	4	9	5	4	5	6
1831	5	5	4	9	5	3	5	6
1832	5	5	4	9	5	3	5	6
1833	5	5	4	9	5	3	5	5
1834	5	5	4	9	5	3	5	5
1835	4	10½	4	4½	4	1½	4	11½
1836	4	10½	4	5	4	1½	4	11½

These are the contract rates of wages paid to the masters, and exceed the sums received by the workmen. Wages are higher in London than at Manchester, Glasgow, or Londonderry, by 16 or 20 per cent.; a difference partly made up by the less price of provisions, fuel, and house-rent. The rise of wages subsequent to 1800 was doubtless occasioned by the bad seasons of the four preceding years. Wheat rose to 139s. per quarter in 1801; its quality was injured by excessive rains; and every other article of provision was proportionately dear and unwholesome. The severe privations of the people checked the growth of population; and the number of marriages, which in 1798 amounted to 79,477, fell in 1800 to 69,851, and in 1801 to 67,288.

Wages in husbandry were affected in a like manner by the dearth at the close of the last century. It appears, from Mr. Barton's statements, and other sources, that the average weekly wages of farm-labourers, in England, in money and in equivalent *pints* of wheat, at the yearly average price, were as follows:—

Year.	s.	d.	Wheat.
1796	8	11	70
1803	11	5	63
1811	14	6	76
1819	12	0	73
1824	10	0	89
1829	11	0	91
1832	12	0	90
1833	12	0	115
1834	12	0	133
1835	11	6	162
1836	11	6	121
1837	11	6	105

The following particulars are all we have been able to collect of the wages of



persons employed in manufactures and other branches of industry during the present reign.

**COTTON MANUFACTURE.**—It is calculated (McCulloch's *Com. Dict.* 415) that 833,000 persons are directly employed in this manufacture as spinners, weavers, bleachers, &c. and that their aggregate wages amount to 20,000,000*l.* per annum. About one-fifth of the people employed are men, one-third women, and the remainder children. The following is a statement of the number and average wages of the work-people in the employ of Messrs. Birley, Hornby, and Kirk, made out in January, 1832.

	Spinners.		Weavers.		No.
	s.	d.	s.	d.	
Men . .	20	6	15	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	379
Women .	11	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	9	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	563
Children .	5	10	5	4 $\frac{3}{4}$	654

The change from hand to power-loom weaving has caused extreme distress in Lancashire. According to the inquiries of parliament, the hand-loom weavers comprise a body of 840,000 individuals; rather exceeding the amount of the African slave population, concerning whose freedom so long and laudable an interest has been manifested in the nation. In 1800 their wages averaged 18*s.* to 20*s.*; in 1816 they had fallen to 12*s.* or 14*s.* weekly, and in 1835, to 3*s.* or 7*s.* At Manchester they were from 5*s.* to 7*s.* 6*d.* net; Aberdeen, 3*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.* 6*d.* net; Bolton, 4*s.* 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* net; Dundee, 6*s.* to 7*s.* net; Forfar, 6*s.* net; Glasgow, 4*s.* to 8*s.* gross; Huddersfield, 4*s.* to 5*s.*, a few 16; Lanark, 5*s.* 1*d.* net; Paisley 6*s.* to 7*s.* gross; Perth, 4*s.* 9*d.* to 7*s.* 9*d.* net; Preston, 4*s.* 9*d.* to 6*s.* 6*d.* gross; Spitalfields, 7*s.* 6*d.* to 8*s.* gross; Stockport, 9*s.* gross; Coventry, 7*s.* 6*d.* net; Nuneaton, 4*s.* 8*d.* net; Drogheda, 2*s.* 4*d.* to 4*s.* net; Belfast, 3*s.* 6*d.* to 6*s.* 6*d.* gross.

The average earnings of 657 weavers of different classes at Leeds were found by Mr. Baines to be, for the first class, men, 11*s.* 3*d.*; women, 5*s.* 9*d.*; boys, 7*s.* 3*d.*; girls, 5*s.* 9*d.*; but that these have employment during ten months in the year only. For the second class, men, 8*s.* 6*d.*; women, 5*s.*; boys, 5*s.*; but that these are employed during six months of the year only.

It is only recently that the *silk manufacture* has been firmly established in this country. Since the year 1824, when the restrictions on the trade were removed, the silk manufacture has spread into various districts, and is now conducted on such improved principles, as not only to place the products of the silk-loom within the reach of the humbler classes, but also to enable the manufacturer successfully to compete in the foreign market. The number of silk-mills in Manchester, which

in 1820 was only five, had increased in 1832 to sixteen. The total number of silk-factories in England in 1835 was 231, employing 29,947 persons, of which number 19,946 were females.

The number of persons employed in the *woollen manufacture* in England and Wales are supposed to be about 400,000, and their aggregate wages to amount to 9,600,000*l.*

The wages of spinners, slubbers, and dressers average about 21*s.* weekly. Forty years since the average wages of men, women, and children, in this manufacture, were from 5*s.* to 6*s.* each per week; they are now from 9*s.* to 10*s.* each per week. In the former period, masons, carpenters, &c., had 1*s.* 3*d.* and 1*s.* 6*d.* a-day; they have now 3*s.*, 3*s.* 6*d.*, and 4*s.* a-day.

The *carpet manufacturers* of Kidderminster in 1830 were divided into three classes:

- 1st class earning 30*s.* per week;
- 2d class about 23*s.* per week;
- 3rd class 20*s.* per week.

The workpeople in the *hardware and metal* manufactures carried on in Sheffield may also be divided into best, second, and third-rate workmen, earning rates of wages varying as follows:

- The best class about 25*s.* per week.
- The second class . . 20*s.* „
- The third class . . 16*s.* „

For one of the highest class there are three of the second and eight of the third. All these persons generally work by the piece. They comprise full 16,000 persons in the town of Sheffield alone. But the total number of persons in Britain directly engaged in the different branches of the hardware manufacture, in iron, brass, steel, and copper, is estimated by Mr. McCulloch to amount to 360,000, and the aggregate value of their products in different metals in a year to 17,500,000*l.*

The rate of wages in London has undergone no material alteration for the last quarter of a century. Those of journey-men tailors have been long maintained at 6*s.* a-day, and this continues the general rate notwithstanding their unfortunate rupture with the masters in 1834. The wages of printers have been equally steady. In 1800 a compositor in book-work received 33*s.* weekly; on a morning newspaper, 40*s.*; evening, 37*s.* In 1811 there was an advance in these rates; since which, they have remained respectively at 36*s.*, 48*s.*, and 43*s.* 6*d.* per week.

The price of labour is less subject to fluctuation than that of any other commodity. The pay of seamen has undergone little permanent variation since the peace; fluctuating, in the Baltic and American trade, between 55*s.* and 60*s.* a-month. In

the Newcastle coal-trade there has been greater unsteadiness, but in this occupation wages appear to have settled at the long-established rate of from 65s. to 70s. per voyage to London.

*Number of the Cotton, Wool, Silk, and Flax Factories worked by steam or water, in the United Kingdom, with the number of persons employed therein in the year 1835.*

Countries.	Factories.	Males.	Females.
England .	2,555	138,254	155,439
Wales .	90	980	956
Scotland .	425	15,818	34,362
Ireland .	90	3,503	6,061

Total . 3,160 158,555 196,818

All under ten years are employed on silk only; children between ten and twelve years are subject to the education clauses of the bill for regulating labour in factories, except those in silk, and work nine hours per day, or forty-eight hours per week. On March 1, 1836, this regulation was extended to children under thirteen years. Young persons between twelve and eighteen years work twelve hours a-day, or sixty-nine per week. In 1836 the regulations were altered, so as to include only those from thirteen to eighteen years of age. A new act for the regulation of factories has been brought forward, and is now (1839) under the consideration of parliament.

**EMIGRATION.**—In the *Chronicle* will have been observed notices of attempts to form new settlements in South Africa and Australia, and of extensive emigrations to North America. The subject attracted much attention in 1827, and a parliamentary committee reported that there was a permanent redundancy of able-bodied labourers, especially in the agricultural districts. Government, however, refrained from countenancing any general plan of colonization, lest its motives might be misrepresented, as indicative of a design to “get rid of the people:” with the exception of the encouragement it has afforded to the removal of part of the Chelsea pensioners to Canada, and the incorporating the Australian Company, it has limited its co-operation to the grant by sale of a local title to foreign territories. Under this system of non-interference, it will appear, from the following statement of the number of emigrants from the United Kingdom to America, the Cape of Good Hope, and Australia, that emigration has made no great progress:—

Years.	America.	Cape of Good Hope.	Australia
1820	17,921	1,063	—
1821	12,470	404	320

Years.	America.	Cape of Good Hope.	Australia.
1822	11,282	192	875
1823	8,133	184	543
1824	7,311	119	780
1825	8,741	114	485
1826	12,818	116	903
1827	12,648	114	715
1828	12,084	135	1,056
1829	13,607	197	2,016
1830	30,574	204	1,242
1831	49,333	58	423
1832	99,319	208	3,792
1833	58,083	517	4,134
1834	73,134	288	2,800

Of the 230,518 emigrants to America, from 1831 to 1834 inclusive, 95,309 settled in the United States; the remainder in the British North American colonies.

**POOR RATES.**—As this is the first statement that has been given of the progress of the poor-rates, it has been carried back to an early period. The introduction of the new poor law in 1834, effected a material reduction in the amount of the assessment. Its other results, as before observed (p. 883), will require a longer term of experience than the present reign has afforded to appreciate. Abundance of employment for the people, and the unusual low price of bread and provisions up to the harvest of 1838, have been peculiarly favourable to the new legislative experiment.

*Progress of Poor rates from 1750 to 1837.*

Years.	£.	s.	d.
1750 . . .	680,433	27	11
1776 . . .	1,521,732	48	4
1801 . . .	4,017,871	115	11
1803 . . .	4,077,891	57	1
1811 . . .	6,656,105	92	5
1814 . . .	6,294,581	72	1
1815 . . .	5,418,846	63	8
1816 . . .	5,724,839	76	2
1817 . . .	6,940,929	94	0
1818 . . .	7,870,801	83	8
1819 . . .	7,516,704	72	3
1820 . . .	7,330,256	65	10
1821 . . .	6,959,249	54	5
1822 . . .	6,358,702	43	3
1823 . . .	5,772,958	51	9
1824 . . .	5,736,898	62	0
1825 . . .	5,786,989	66	6
1826 . . .	5,928,501	56	11
1827 . . .	6,441,088	56	9
1828 . . .	6,298,000	60	5
1829 . . .	6,332,410	66	3
1830 . . .	6,829,042	64	3
1831 . . .	6,798,888	66	4
1832 . . .	7,036,968	58	8
1833 . . .	6,790,799	52	11
1834 . . .	6,317,254	46	2
1835 . . .	5,526,418	39	4
1836 . . .	4,717,629	48	6
1837 . . .	4,044,741	55	10



The enormous reduction in parochial expenditure has been chiefly effected by the refusal of out-door relief to the poor, and the consolidation of parishes into unions, under local boards of guardians, chosen by the higher class of rate-payers, and superintended by a central board of commissioners sitting in London. The new system has been rapidly and energetically carried out. During the first year of the commission the number of parishes formed into unions was 2069; in the second year, 5846, and in the third year the number was 5598. In July 1837, 12,132 parishes in England had been *unionized*, containing a population of 10,556,907, and 1301 parishes, many of them under local acts, had not been united. The greatest resistance to the new law has been encountered in the manufacturing districts of Yorkshire and Lancashire, where the separation of the sexes, non-relief, and removal of the poor by emigration, have been stoutly resisted on *Scriptural* grounds. Pending the temporary commercial difficulties of 1837, the commissioners were compelled to relax their cardinal rule of refusing relief except in a workhouse, in the counties of Leicester and Nottingham, and they have commenced allowing greater discretion to the boards of guardians in carrying out the act. Lord John Russell stated (*House of Commons, March 14, 1839*) that the value of some land had increased under the operation of the act by three years' purchase, but the intrinsic worth and permanence of this gain it will require a longer and more varied term of experience than the last five years to determine.

*Savings Banks.*—The number of Savings Banks in 1837 was, in England, 398; Scotland 9; Wales 23; Ireland 78; making a total of 408. The total number of depositors in the United Kingdom was 624,560; the amount of investments, 18,498,044*l.*, making the average amount invested by each depositor 30*l.* The total number of depositors for sums not exceeding 20*l.* was 334,489. The number of depositors not exceeding 20*l.* in 1830 was 215,010; in 1831 they increased 7954; in 1832, 4147; in 1833, 17,415; in 1834, 16,769; in 1835, 20,278; in 1836, 27,644; in 1837, 25,272.

*Bastardy.*—The total number of bastards chargeable to parishes in England in the year 1835 was 65,475; in 1837 the number chargeable had been reduced to 39,371; being a decrease of 40 per cent. in two years. The number of bastards affiliated in 1835 was 11,244; in 1837, under the new poor law only 3862. It would be erroneous to infer that the number of natural children born had diminished in

an equal ratio with the number of affiliations. Under the new law the burden of maintenance is thrown entirely on the mother, or relief granted only on such proofs and onerous terms as often prevent paternal affiliations. The tendency of such a coercive procedure requires to be gravely considered and vigilantly watched. It is not intended to underrate either the necessity or importance of some of the provisions of the poor law act, but it is obvious that a reduction in the poor assessment and in the apparent amount of bastardy afford only equivocal proofs of the successful working of the new legislation; which may, unperceived, be slowly generating internal maladies much more dangerous to the state than the former external exhibitions of improvidence and incontinence. M. Guerry, in his valuable work on the *Statistics of Crime in France*, records a discovery that pointedly bears on the latter subject. He says, "The departments in which there are the *greatest number of illegitimate births* are in general those where the fewest number of *infanticides* are committed. And that, on the other hand, where infanticides are most numerous, there frequently are the fewest number of illegitimate births."

*Lunatics and Idiots.*—The total number of pauper lunatics and idiots in England and Wales is 13,667. Male lunatics 2834, females 3568. Male idiots 3372, females 3893. In England there is one lunatic or idiot to 1033 of the population, and in Wales 1 to 807. The proportion of idiots is largest in the agricultural counties, and of lunatics in the manufacturing districts.

*Consumption of Malt.*—The number of bushels of malt consumed in the United Kingdom is the last statistical fact we shall adduce to elucidate the condition and progress of the working classes. The subjoined comparative return of the bushels of malt consumed in 1830 and 1837 confirms our general description of the flourishing state of the population during the present reign:—

	<i>Bushels.</i> 1830.	<i>Bushels.</i> 1837.
England .	26,900,902	33,692,356
Scotland .	4,101,946	4,583,446
Ireland .	1,959,606	2,275,347

Total annual increase of consumption in the United Kingdom, 7,588,695 bushels. In 1825 the bushels of malt charged with duty were,—England, 29,572,741; Scotland, 3,925,847; Ireland, 2,706,862.

PRICES, CURRENCY, BILLS OF EXCHANGE  
PUBLIC ANNUITANTS, CONSUMPTION,  
MORTALITY.

Prices of 3 per cent. Consols, bank of

England and East India stock, in January; number of BANKRUPTS and declarations of INSOLVENTS in each year; and the price, per quarter, of WHEAT at the annual Gazette averages:—

Year.	3 per cent.	Bk.	India.	Bkts.	Ins.	Wht.
1831	81	200	217	1433	188	66s.
1832	82	194	194	1365	157	58
1833	87	193	206	1020	107	52
1834	88	213	242	1101	150	46
1835	91	223	260	1032	121	39
1836	91	213	253	929	103	48
1837	89	207	253	1668	182	55

PRICES of the following articles of CONSUMPTION, exclusive of the duty, were as follows:

Year.	Coal pr. chl.	Coffee pr. ct.	Flour pr. sk.	Sugar pr. ct.	Tea pr. lb.
1831	29	84	63	23	24
1832	25	100	63	23	24
1833	20	94	50	28	24
1834	22	112	60	27	25
1835	26	124	40	27	25
1836	25	113	36	39	18
1837	29	117	55	33	19

Newcastle coal by chaldron (price per ton one-fourth less;) coffee, the highest priced Jamaica; sugar, raw brown Jamaica; tea, Bohea. Prices are stated in shillings, except tea, which is in pence.

CATTLE and SHEEP sold in Smithfield market, with the CHRISTENINGS and BURIALS within the London bills of mortality:—

Year.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Christened.	Buried.
1831	148,168	1,189,010	28,263	25,337
1832	158,640	1,257,180	26,974	28,606
1833	152,093	1,167,820	27,090	26,577
1834	162,485	1,237,360	27,216	21,679
1835	170,325	1,381,540	26,128	21,415
1836	164,351	1,219,510	26,255	18,229
1837	172,435	1,329,010	25,706	21,063

The bills of mortality for 1837 are said to be more imperfect than usual. By the operation of the New Registration Act a difficulty has been experienced in obtaining returns of christenings and burials in some parishes; in others, where the office of searcher (persons employed in London to

examine the dead previous to interment) has been discontinued, the diseases of which deaths have taken place have been necessarily omitted. But it seldom happens all the parishes within the bills make returns. The following are the numbers and ages of those who died in 1832, (year of the *cholera morbus*), 1836, and 1837:—

	1832.	1836.	1837.
Under two years of age	6355	4157	4891
Between two and five	2678	1624	2003
Five and ten . . . .	1270	783	774
Ten and twenty . . .	1113	673	755
Twenty and thirty . .	2215	1315	1555
Thirty and forty . . .	2749	1651	1937
Forty and fifty . . .	3086	1948	2204
Fifty and sixty . . .	3041	1866	2038
Sixty and seventy . .	2949	1849	2246
Seventy and eighty . .	2194	1573	1860
Eighty and ninety . .	848	685	710
Ninety and one hundred . . . . .	105	94	84
One hundred and above	3	1	6

The still-born, which, in 1837, amounted to 845, are not included in the bills.

The above may be compared with the returns at p. 860, and those given p. 404, and the earlier years of the reign of George I.

Before vaccination was established, the mortality from small-pox in the metropolis exceeded 5000 annually, although the population was one-fourth less. The deaths from this fatal disease, prior to 1837, were about 300 annually. But in November of that year small-pox began to spread epidemically in London, and so widely, that from that month until November, 1838, the admissions into the Small-pox Hospital amounted to 700—the largest number ever received since the foundation of the hospital. The disease has also been prevalent in the country; chiefly, from the erroneous impression abroad that the vaccine matter has lost its preventive efficacy by time, and people consequently again resorting to inoculation.

Average CIRCULATION of the bank of England; amount of BULLION in the Bank; coinage of GOLD and SILVER; and average circulation of the Private Banks and Joint-stock Banks:—

Year.	Circulation.	Bullion.	Gold.	Silver.	Private Banks.	Joint-stock Banks.
1831	£.19,069,385	£.7,328,405	£. 587,949	£.33,696		
1832	18,138,245	6,223,575	3,730,757	145		
1833	18,638,000	9,500,500	1,225,269	145	£.8,836,803	£.1,315,301
1834	18,174,500	7,354,500	66,949	432,775	8,370,423	1,783,689
1835	17,602,000	6,272,000	1,109,718	146,665	7,912,587	2,508,036
1836	17,999,500	6,529,000			7,764,824	3,969,121
1837	17,907,600	6,229,500			6,701,996	3,440,053



The circulation of the private and joint-stock banks in 1833, is to Dec. 28, 1833, and for the subsequent years to the quarter ending in September of the respective year: the returns are made pursuant to 3 & 4 Wm. 4. c. 83.

The duty paid on BILLS of EXCHANGE amounted to 384,956*l.* for England; Scotland 84,442*l.*; Ireland 75,151*l.*: total, in 1836, for the United Kingdom, 615,025*l.* In 1805, which is the earliest account at the stamp-office, the amount was 384,449*l.*; in 1810, 588,753*l.*; in 1815, 673,111*l.*; in 1825, 597,080*l.*; in 1835, 544,500*l.*

PUBLIC ANNUITANTS.—The number of persons to whom half-yearly dividends were payable at the bank of England, October 10, 1837, was 91,158; on January 5, 1838, 189,408: total, 280,566. The number of these receiving dividends at or under

£5 . . . . .	86,927
10 . . . . .	45,020
50 . . . . .	98,598
100 . . . . .	25,983
200 . . . . .	14,778
300 . . . . .	4,583
500 . . . . .	2,752
1000 . . . . .	1,363
2000 . . . . .	375
2000 and above . . . . .	187

#### NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES, REPORTING, POPULAR LITERATURE.

The glory of newspapers, magazines, and parliamentary reporting, belongs to the last and present centuries. There were earlier attempts at journalism, but they were only attempts, and can no more be likened to the modern broad-sheet than an Indian canoe to an Atlantic steamer. During the commonwealth there were wing-footed *Mercuries*, speeding their flight from London to York in the brief space of a fortnight or three weeks, freighted with tidings of equal importance, and recording with not less scrupulous etiquette than the present court circular, the daily proceedings, the entrances and exits from about Whitehall, of "His highness, the lord protector," of the "most illustrious lady, the lady Mary Cromwell," and of "the most noble lord, the lord Falconbridge." These, however, were like angels' visits, few and far between; they were not periodicals, but bulletins, or political pamphlets issued at uncertain intervals. In 1663, when Roger L'Estrange set up with privilege his *Intelligencer*, he boasted that "one book a-week may be expected to be published every Thursday, and finished upon the Tuesday night, leaving Wednesday entire for printing

off." So much time spent in "finishing" and "printing off" of perhaps a circulation not exceeding 100 copies would make the intelligence conveyed by Roger to his London customers not very fresh, and by the time it reached the country reader would be dead matter of history. The *Intelligencer* preceded the *London Gazette* about two years, and a copy of it may be seen in the British Museum, consisting of four pages, about the size of a Penny Magazine or Chambers' Journal.

Before the revolution of 1688 there were several London papers, regulated by licences and surveyors of the press. In 1709 London had one daily paper, fifteen three times a-week, and one twice a week: this was the year before the imposition of a penny stamp-duty, when a kind of mania raged for the latest arrivals, and when it was a subject of complaint in the aristocratic *British Mercury*, that in the metropolis "The meanest of shopkeepers and handicrafts spend whole days in coffee-houses ['penny universities,' as they are disparagingly called] to hear news and talk politics, whilst their wives and children want bread at home." After the statute of 1724, providing for the better collection of the stamp-duty, there were three daily papers, six weekly, and ten three times a-week. It seems to have dealt a heavy blow to genius, for Swift, in his "Journal to Stella," speaking of the effect of the new regulations, says, "Do you know that Grub-street is dead and gone last week? No more ghosts or murderers now for love or money." The dean, however, was premature; the penny-a-liners still live, and are occasionally allowed to ply their vocation in the dark November months of the parliamentary interregnum, even in the London journals.

About the period of the introduction of the stamp-duty, the *Leeds Mercury* and some other of the old country papers had been established. They mostly present a singular contrast to their successors in their diminutive size, the meagreness of their contents, and are for the most part printed in larger type,—more suited, perhaps, to the bad eyes or bad lights of their readers.

The desire of news from the capital on the part of the wealthier country residents, and probably the false information and the impertinence of the public papers, led to the common establishment of a very curious trade, that of a NEWS-CORRESPONDENT, who, for a subscription of three or four pounds per annum, wrote a letter of news every post-day to his subscribers in the country. This profession probably existed in the reign of James I.; for in Ben Jonson's play, "The Staple of News,"

written in the first year of Charles I., there is an amusing description of an office of copyists and news-manufacturers:—

"This is the outer room where my clerks sit, And keep their sides, the Register i' the midst: The Examiner, he sits private there, within: And here I have my several rolls and files Of news by the alphabet, and all put up Under their heads."

As this was long before the age of expressers, of resident agents abroad, of rival reporters, vying like race-horses in speed on well-macadamized roads—composing the while for next day's paper, in flying post-chaises and four, the disjecta membra of a Glasgow or Edinburgh Festival—the news-correspondent often suffered under a grievous dearth of interesting events and occurrences, that drove him to shifts and contrivances—to deal largely in *on dits*—to satisfy the ever-craving appetite of the rural *quid nunc*—the consequence of which was, that his manuscript circular fell into as much disrepute as the public news.

In the advertisement, announcing the first number of the *Evening Post*, (September 6, 1709,) it is said, "There must be three or four pound per annum paid by those gentlemen who are out of town for written news, which is so far, generally, from having any probability of matter of fact in it, that it is frequently stuffed up with a *We hear*, &c., or *An eminent Jew merchant has received a letter*, &c.; being nothing more than downright fiction." The same advertisement, speaking of the published papers, says, "We read more of our own affairs in the Dutch papers than in any of our own." The trade of a news-correspondent seems to have suggested a sort of union of written news and printed news, for, towards the end of the seventeenth century, we have news-letters printed in type to imitate writing. The most celebrated of these was that commenced by Ichabod Dawks in 1696, the first number of which was thus announced: "This letter will be done upon good writing-paper, and blank space left, that any gentleman may write his own private business. It does undoubtedly exceed the best of the written news, contains double the quantity, is read with abundant more ease and pleasure, and will be useful to improve the *younger sort* in writing a *curious hand*." Dawks arrived at such a pitch of celebrity, that, together with Dyer, another news-letter editor, they came to be emblazoned in the renown of a Latin ode, indited by one Anthony Alsop,—

"quid habent novorum  
Dawksque, Dyerque?"

The period of the English press from the accession of James I. to the Orange revolution is generally considered the least satisfactory in our literary history.

In the reign of the first Stuart came an inundation of pedantry, which surrounded the court with verbal criticism and solemn quibble;—the people, indeed, had their glorious dramatists, but Bacon was looked upon as an impracticable dreamer. Controversy, too, began to be rife, and the spirit at last exploded in such a torrent of civil and ecclesiastical violence in the next reign, as left no opening for science or belles lettres. The press was absorbed by the productions of this contentious outbreak. There is in the British Museum a collection of 2000 volumes of tracts issued between the years 1640 and 1660, the whole number of which several publications amounts to the enormous quantity of 30,000. This most curious collection was made by a bookseller of the name of Tomlinson, in the times when the tracts were printed—was bargained for, but not bought, by Charles II.—and was eventually bought by George III., and presented by him to the British Museum. The limited demand for any publications unconnected with controversial subjects may be inferred from the little popularity enjoyed by Milton's metrical productions, and the fact mentioned by Dr. Johnson, that from 1623 to 1664, the nation was satisfied with two editions of Shakspeare's plays, which probably together did not amount to 1000 copies. The cause of wholesome literature did not benefit by the Restoration,—it was a transition from one extreme to another—from a conclave to a brothel,—and it became a mere toy of a licentious king, his courtisans and gallants, who sought to divert their weariness with wits and authors, as monarchs were wont to do with their jesters. Charles II. and his followers brought hither the spirit of the literary parasites of Louis XIV., with whom the great were everything and the people nothing, save a brute and random bolt, or slumbering shell in a mortar. Under this kind of favour, letters, with a few grand exceptions, put on the lowest garb in which they can be arrayed—were tricked out in meretricious finery—habiliments to excite the gross passions of human nature—to pander to the low appetites of the swell mob of St. James's, or the hardly less degraded rabble that congregated nightly at Blackfriars, or the Globe theatre in Southwark.

Literature, to be enduring and generally useful, must be based on the popular demand. If supported only by courtiers, nobles, or ecclesiastics, it is not national, but the literature of a class, and partakes of the vices of class interests. This distinction English letters attained under Queen Anne, when the caprice of private patronage, which had been fed by soft and



mendacious dedications, was exchanged for the more steady, remunerative, and independent support of the people. The penny "Tatlers," "Spectators," and "Guardians," were less exciting, and more conducive to a healthy state of the public intellect, than meagre paragraphs about the Low Countries, Prince Eugene, the Turks, and the Austrians, rumours of wars, and domestic scandal. They formed the taste, sentiment, and manners of society; they were to the middle ranks of those days what the cheap weekly periodicals now are to the working classes. They were not remarkable for originality, they were commonplace, and their triteness made them more suited to their purpose. Executed with singular good intent, fancy, delicacy, and judgment, they were better adapted to the first stages of popular training, by creating a literary propensity and seducing the reader's affections, than startling philosophical appeals to his understanding.

The Essayists had also the merit of being the harbingers of a higher class of periodical miscellany—the MAGAZINE. A printer, Edward Cave by name, with a shrewd regard to creating regular employment for his presses, formed the design of establishing a miscellany to collect into a permanent repository the most valuable of the fugitive pieces from the newspapers and other sheets, or rather half-sheets, that had appeared during the month. Of these it is stated, that "besides divers written accounts, no less than 200 per month were then thrown from the press only in London, and about as many printed elsewhere in the three kingdoms." He offered a share of his undertaking to half the booksellers in London, who rejected the project as absurd or injurious to their interests. These gentlemen had not learnt, even by the success of the Essayists, to rely upon the talisman of low prices in creating a demand. In 1731, Cave at his own risk produced the first magazine printed in England—*The Gentleman's*. Its success was so great, that in the following year the booksellers became jealous; they could not understand Cave's scheme till they had discovered its value by their own peculiar mode of testing the merit of literary enterprise, and they then set up a rival magazine, "*The London*." In 1749 the first review, "*The Monthly*," was started, and in a few years was followed by "*The Critical*." They did an immense deal for literature and the literary character. They did not create poets and philosophers, but they prevented kings, and lords, and fashionables, pretending to create them.

"Un Auguste peut aisement faire un Virgile"

was the sweet lollypop addressed by Boileau or other pensioned sycophant to the illiterate and vain-glorious Louis XIV.

Connected with the rise of the magazine, and about four years after, may be dated the commencement of PARLIAMENTARY REPORTING. Prior to this time the current proceedings of the house of commons were no more known to their constituents, than the proceedings of a cabinet council now are. Although accounts of single speeches, and even of entire debates, had been occasionally printed from a much earlier period, the only regular record of parliamentary proceedings which was given to the public, up to within about a century of the present time, was that contained in the "*Historical Register*," and the "*Political State of Europe*", both of which were annual publications. Parliament sternly asserted its right to prohibit all promulgation of its doings through the press, at least while it was sitting; and many persons maintained that it had the power to prevent any publication of its debates even during the recess. The first attempt at a monthly publication of the debates was made in an extraordinary number of the *Gentleman's Magazine* for August, 1735, which contained a report of the debate in the lords on the 23d of January preceding. The practice was continued in succeeding numbers. It was, however, no publication of the debates during the sitting of the houses; the session was always over before anything done in the course of it was given in the magazine. Even while following at this distance, the reports were of the most timid and cautious description. The names of the speakers were given only by the first and last letters, and in many cases no speaker's name is mentioned; all that appears is a summary of the argument and discussion. They got bolder by degrees, and at last the names were printed at full length. This audacity, coupled with the fact that some of the members appeared in a light not very satisfactory to themselves, either from their own defects, or the incorrect version of their oratory, caused the attention of the commons to be drawn to the subject. It was brought under notice, April 13, 1738, by the speaker, who was followed by sir William Yonge, sir William Windham, and sir Thomas Winington. The last, after referring to the conduct of the lords, who had lately punished some printers for publishing their protests, asked, with warmth, if they were to be less jealous of their privileges than the other house? "What will be the consequence," continued the indignant member, "if you allow these reports to go on unchecked?"

Why, sir, you will have every word that is spoken here by gentlemen misrepresented by fellows who thrust themselves into our gallery. You will have the speeches of this house every day printed, *even during your session; and we shall be looked upon as the most contemptible assembly on the face of the earth!*" Mr. Pulteney and sir Robert Walpole, the leaders of the two political parties, followed, without dissenting from the last speaker's disparaging prognostication; after which, a thundering resolution was unanimously agreed to, declaring it "a high indignity to, and a notorious breach of, the privileges of the house to publish the debates, either while parliament is sitting or during the recess," and threatening to proceed against offenders with the "utmost severity." As an account of parliamentary business was now obtained with greater risk, the report of the debates necessarily became more inaccurate than before, and various contrivances were employed to disguise a version of them. The Gentleman's Magazine published them under the title of "The Debates in the Senate of Lilliput," and the London Magazine under that of a "Journal of the Proceedings and Debates in the Political Club;" giving Roman names to the speakers, while each publication printed an explanatory key to the whole at the end of the year. The two gentlemen principally occupied in this mystification were Mr. William Guthrie, the author of a continuation of Smollett's History of England, and Mr. Thomas Gordon, a translator of Tacitus, both of whom were Scotchmen.

About this time the celebrated Samuel Johnson arrived in London, poverty-stricken and without a lodging, accompanied by his hardly less celebrated townsman, David Garrick. He had for some years furnished essays and biographies to Cave's Magazine, who engaged him in the composition of the parliamentary debates. The reports from Nov. 19, 1740, to Feb. 23, 1743, inclusive, are considered to have been entirely prepared by him. The plan first adopted seems to have been, for Guthrie, who had a good memory, to bring home as much as he could recollect of the debate from the house, mending his draft by whatever other assistance he could command; after which, the matter thus collected underwent the finishing touches of Johnson. At times, according to Boswell, Johnson had no other aid than the names of the speakers, and the side they took, being left to his own resources to find the argument and language. A speech—the celebrated speech he put into the mouth of Mr.

Pitt, March 10, 1741, when that distinguished orator replied to the taunts of Horace Walpole on account of his youth—Johnson afterwards declared, in the company of Francis, Wedderburn, Foote, and Murphy, that he "wrote it in a garret in Exeter-street." His reports, however, are considered by the editor of Hansard's Parliamentary History the most authentic extant, faithfully embodying the argument, if not the style, of the speakers. It was once observed to him, that he dealt out reason and eloquence with an equal hand to both parties. "That is not quite true," said Johnson: "I saved appearances tolerably well, but I took care that the whig dogs should not have the best of it." The reports increased immensely the sale of the magazine; they enabled Cave to set up an equipage, who had the good sense, instead of going to the heralds' office for a crest, to clap on the door-pannel a representation of his office at St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell; where Johnson sometimes ate his dinner, concealed behind a screen, not having suitable clothes to appear in before the more modish visitors of his employer, some of them perhaps M.P.'s, who dropped in to see or correct the maiden proofs of their oratory in the senate.

All this time the debates had not descended to the Newspapers; nor did they till thirty years later. The *Gazetteer* and other daily prints, consisting of a folio half-sheet or single leaf, were usually taken up with a political essay, some scraps of foreign news many months old, a few notices of domestic occurrences from the country, and a parcel of advertisements, mostly of quack medicines, low jest-books, and other matters suited to vulgar taste. The proceedings of parliament were rarely noticed at all, except perhaps to the extent of an intimation that, his majesty, it was reported, intended to go down to the house, to deliver a gracious speech. Things continued nearly in this state till 1770, when, though the papers had doubled in size, they still contained no debates. Soon after this, however, a great change took place. The conduct of the house of commons in the case of the Middlesex election of the preceding year, when they declared colonel Luttrell to be the sitting member instead of Mr. Wilkes, who had been returned by an immense majority of votes, had drawn upon the proceedings of parliament a degree of popular attention which they had never received since the Revolution; and had excited a determined spirit of resistance to what appeared the arbitrary conduct of the commons. The legality of its assumed privileges was jealously scrutinized, and the right of the



house to interdict the publication of its proceedings was the ground on which it was determined to make a stand. The printers of newspapers had long intended (*Woodfall's Junius*, iii. 345) to report the debates, and now resolved to make the experiment. They knew that they could confidently count upon being supported in the contest they were about to commence by nearly the whole force of public opinion, and towards the end of 1770 several of the London papers began to carry their determination of reporting into effect. The example was immediately followed by the *Dublin Mercury*, and the whole of the country papers.

It was not long before these bold proceedings attracted the notice of the house of commons, and the debates which ensued on several nights were unusually violent. On one evening, March 12, there were twenty-three divisions, and the house did not adjourn till four in the morning. The result was that eight printers were ordered to attend at the bar. But not one of them obeyed the summons. The officers of the house were then ordered to take them into custody, which they did in the case of three, and brought them before the city magistrates, who not only discharged the prisoners, but bound them over to prosecute the officers for false imprisonment. For this two of the magistrates were sent to the Tower; and the clerk of the city, being brought forward to the table of the house, was compelled to tear out the leaves of his register on which the judgments of the magistracy had been recorded. But here the violence of the commons appears to have exhausted itself. None of the refractory printers had yet been brought to the bar, and the house, either from the difficulty of determining on ulterior measures, or apprehensive of consequences, gave up (see *Feb.* 1771) the struggle. The public excitement was great; immense multitudes assembled nightly around the house, and the populace could hardly be restrained from acts of violence. The victory was complete, and no attempt has since been made to restrain the papers from daily reporting, during the session, the debates of parliament. For some years after, the practice of shutting the gallery of the commons was resorted to; this was frequently done, and the public sometimes excluded for a whole session, especially during the American war.

It is hardly possible to overrate the importance of the right to publish the debates, or its salutary influence, both on the people and their representatives. Parliamentary discussions are a treasury of information on all the chief questions of

public interest; and no doubt the practice of daily reporting them was a principal cause of the remarkable display of oratory that almost immediately after distinguished the British senate. Publicity is a cheap and efficient guarantee against the abuse of delegated authority; and the example of England, of open proceedings, has been followed by all the constitutional governments of the continent.

The system of newspaper reporting has been greatly improved since its first introduction. The person by whom it was carried to the greatest perfection, with the old machinery, was Mr. George Woodfall, the proprietor and editor, first of the *Public Advertiser*, and afterwards of the *Morning Chronicle*. Mr. Woodfall had so retentive a memory, that it is said he used frequently to write out the account of a whole evening's debate after having merely heard it in the gallery, and without having taken any notes. It would, however, be a mistake to suppose that the speeches thus carried away were given with anything like the fulness and accuracy of modern reports. Another inconvenience attending the employment of only one reporter for the night was the delay which it occasioned in the publication of the paper. At the time when this practice prevailed it was no uncommon thing for the *Morning Chronicle* not to make its appearance before nine or ten o'clock at night. The public is indebted to the late Mr. Perry for the first suggestion and introduction of the greatly-improved principle on which parliamentary reporting is now conducted. It was about the year 1783 that that gentleman, on becoming the editor of the *Gazetteer*, proposed the establishment of a body of reporters to attend every night in succession in both houses. The superior excellence of the reports thus obtained soon superseded the former practice. Each of the great morning papers now employs from eight to twelve reporters, each of whom remains in either house only about three-quarters of an hour, or an hour, when his place is taken by another, and he hastens back to the office to write out the portion of the debate he has brought away with him, for the printer. A long speech may thus be said to extend from the mouth of the speaker to Printing-house-square; be, at the same time, in course of delivery in parliament—part of it travelling along the Strand—part in the hands of the compositor—part printed, and on the desk of the editor, who is occupied in compressing its substance into a leading article or in a commentary to accompany it in next day's publication. No reporter now thinks of depending merely upon his memory; all take notes, though

few write short hand, more or less extended. The object aimed at, is not a literal report, but a faithful abridgment of the sentiment, matter, and style of the speaker. The chief speeches are given with extraordinary correctness; but of the inferior speeches, or those of speakers little known to the public, only the points are indicated, and many are passed by in silence. There is only one publication, the *Mirror of Parliament*, that professes to give all the speeches fully and accurately. Of its accuracy, as a verbatim report, it is not easy to judge. Some of the great morning papers have accused the *Mirror*, not of misrepresenting what is said in the house, but of permitting the members to misrepresent it. The practice of submitting a speech to the correction of the person that has pronounced it is indeed liable to the objection, that the member will correct the report according to his discretion more than his memory; and the result will be a transcript of what he should have said, or intended to say, rather than of what he really uttered.

Although the duties of reporters are both important and arduous, it is only of late years that a disposition has been shown to afford them facilities for the discharge of them. Formerly they had no means of entering the gallery of the commons beyond those enjoyed by the public generally; and, on days when an interesting debate was expected, they were frequently obliged to take their places on the stairs early in the forenoon, and, after standing there for many hours, to depend for their chance of getting in by battling their way in the crowd when the door opened. The first arrangements for the express purpose of accommodating the reporters were made a few years before the death of Mr. Pitt. Previous to that time note-books had been very generally introduced; but in the commons, from the crowded state of the gallery, they were comparatively of small use. It happened one night, when the premier was to make a lead-speech, that the gallery was more than usually thronged, and neither by force nor entreaty could the reporters procure even tolerable accommodation. They took counsel together, and the result was a secession. Next morning, instead of the rounded periods of the minister, there appeared nothing but one dire blank, accompanied by a strong comment on the grievance in which it had originated. The almost immediate result was the appropriation, under the direction of Mr. speaker Abbott, of the uppermost bench of the gallery to the reporters' exclusive use, with a door in the centre, by which they alone had a

right to enter. Soon after, a small room at the end of the gallery passage, which bore on its glass pannels the words "Reporters' Room," notwithstanding the standing order and its penalties, was added for the convenience of the gentlemen previous to taking their places in the gallery, and during the divisions. The lords followed the commons in their accommodation of the press, at the due distance which befitted their dignity. It was not until about twenty years ago that a note-book was permitted to make its appearance at the bar of the upper house. If a young or forward reporter ventured to display the implements of his trade to the eyes of their lordships, they were immediately struck from his hand by one or other of the messengers. The first person who ventured to rest his book on their lordships' bar is said to have been Mr. Windyer, who now is, or lately was, a justice of the peace in Sydney, New South Wales. His example was followed; and only two sessions after, the robe of lord Eldon, while his lordship was proceeding to the bar to receive a deputation of the lower house, having accidentally caused Mr. Windyer to drop his book within the bar, the noble earl checked his onward step, picked up the fragments of the passing debate, and presented them, with an engaging smile, to their collector. In the session of 1828-9, when from the intense interest to which the catholic question gave rise, the press found it difficult to maintain their station, a portion of the space below the bar was railed off for them; and a session or two after, when a strangers' gallery was added to the lords, a seat was set apart for their use. In the present temporary erection, the privilege of an exclusive place for the press is provided in both houses—in the commons, behind the speaker's chair.

A regular and authentic publication of the debates must have added immensely to the interest of newspapers, and thereby vastly increased their number and circulation. In 1782 the number of newspapers published in the United Kingdom was 79; in 1790, 146; in 1821, 278; in 1836, 397. In September, 1836, the act for the reduction of the duty came into operation (see p. 1009) and gave a powerful impulse to the newspaper press. Within a year after the number of papers increased from 397 to 458, and their circulation from 35,576,056 to 53,496,207. The following is the parliamentary return, showing the effect of the reduction on the revenue, and the number and circulation of the newspapers in the year before and the year after it took place:—



*Year ending Sept. 15, 1836.*

	<i>No. Newspapers.</i>	<i>No. Stamps.</i>	<i>Duty.</i>
London newspapers . . . 71 . .		19,241,640 .	£256,556
English provincial do. 194 . .		8,535,396 .	113,804
Scotch do. do. 54 . .		2,654,438 .	35,392
Irish do. do. 78 . .		5,141,582 .	37,525
Total . . . 397		35,576,056	£443,278

*Year ending Sept. 15, 1837.*

	<i>No. Newspapers.</i>	<i>No. Stamps.</i>	<i>Duty.</i>
London newspapers . . . 85 . .		29,172,797 .	£121,553
English provincial do. 237 . .		14,996,113 .	62,483
Scotch do. do. 65 . .		4,123,330 .	17,180
Irish do. do. 71 . .		5,203,967 .	16,263
Total . . . 458		53,496,207	£217,480

The produce of the stamp-duty on newspapers was—

In 1809 . . . . .	£359,448
1815 . . . . .	383,696
1820 . . . . .	440,228
1825 . . . . .	449,574
1830 . . . . .	505,439

(See further on *Newspapers*, pp. 531, 760, 795.)

The period from the accession of George III. to the close of the last reign has been marked by the rapid increase of the demand for POPULAR LITERATURE, rather than by any prominent features of originality in literary production. Periodical literature spread on every side; newspapers, magazines, and reviews were multiplied; and the old system of selling books by hawkers was extended to the rural districts and small provincial towns. Of the number-books thus produced, the quality was indifferent, with a few exceptions, and the cost of these works was considerable. The principle, however, was then first developed of extending the market by coming into it at regular intervals with fractions of a work, so that the humblest customer might lay by each week in a savings-bank of knowledge. Smollett's "History of England" was one of the most successful number-books: it sold to the extent of 20,000 copies, on the first publication of it by the author.

The vast extension of commerce in books may be inferred from some curious facts published by Mr. Charles Knight, of Ludgate-hill. Exclusive of pamphlets and other tracts, the number of new works published in the first fifty-seven years of the last century was 5280, being only an average of ninety-three new works in each year. From 1792 to 1802, eleven years, exclusive of reprints and pamphlets, there were 4096 new works, averaging 372 new books per annum. From 1800 to 1827, excluding as before, the number of new

books was 15,888, showing an annual average of 588 new books; being an increase of 216 per year over the last eleven years of the previous century.

The prices of books having been raised since 1800, an attempt was made in 1827 by the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge, and several of the large book-sellers of London and Edinburgh, to reduce them to the old rate of cheapness, without any diminution of excellence. On this principle, several valuable works were published monthly, and numerous weekly periodicals commenced, which, at the price of one penny or three half-pence each, and without the excitement of either religious or political topics, attained a steady sale of from 70,000 to 120,000 numbers.

The new publications on this plan, though mostly consisting of extracts and compilations, appear not to have materially discouraged the production of original works. The following table exhibits the number of new publications, without pamphlets or reprints, of each year from 1828 to 1833, with the number of volumes, and the aggregate price of a single copy of each new work.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Pub.</i>	<i>Vols.</i>	<i>Price.</i>
1828 . . . . .	842	1105	£668 10 0
1829 . . . . .	1064	1413	879 1 0
1830 . . . . .	1142	1592	873 5 3
1831 . . . . .	1105	1619	939 9 3
1832 . . . . .	1152	1525	807 19 6
1833 . . . . .	1180	1567	831 8 0

All the original and important works, the copyright of which is considered sufficiently valuable to be worth protecting in a court of law, are entered in Stationers' Hall. Judging by this criterion there appears to have been a slight decrease in the production of this description of publications. The following is the number of works entered at the Hall, each year from 1820 to 1831 both inclusive:—

1820 . . . . .	1208	1826 . . . . .	1181
1821 . . . . .	1111	1827 . . . . .	1316

1822 .	1454	1828 .	1309
1823 .	1296	1829 .	1105
1824 .	1281	1830 .	1264
1825 .	1376	1831 .	1159

Averaging in the first six years 1287 works per annum, and in the second 1222.

#### RAILWAYS AND STEAM-NAVIGATION.

Two periods of remarkable improvement in the modes of travelling and carriage conveyance, namely, that by the common roads and that by canal navigation, have been already noticed (pp. 567, 636); and it appropriately belongs to the present reign to record a third, which promises to supersede both its predecessors, and to effect a more sweeping change in locomotive action by land and water than it was possible for the human fancy to conceive. All nations seem in a fair way of becoming one nation, separated only by local administrations and provincial dialects. The poet's prayer, that time and space might be annihilated, has been almost conceded, and the old saw, that "time and tide wait for no man," has been so far inverted that few men feel the slaves of either. This extraordinary revolution is as sudden as universal. The Brindleys and Bridgewaters, the M'Adams, Rennies and Telfords, have hardly ceased to live ere their glory begins to dim, their mighty works to dwindle in public estimation, and to be looked upon, like the Egyptian pyramids, or the aqueducts of the ancients, with commingled feelings of astonishment and pity at the wasted toil, the ill-adapted means to ends, compared with the rapid flights of later discoveries.

Both rail-roads and steam-navigation may be considered the inventions of the present century. There were crude attempts previously in both descriptions of mechanical contrivances, but they were either wholly unsuccessful or of such limited utility as to discourage their general adoption. In the Newcastle collieries wooden railways were used in the seventeenth century, and for which, on a limited scale, iron began in 1767 to be substituted as a more durable material. This experiment met with so little encouragement that, thirty years after, a Mr. Carr published a book, claiming to be the first inventor of cast-iron rails. These railways, it may be remarked, were all private undertakings, no public railway was attempted. The first act of parliament for a work of this kind was passed in 1801, and was for the construction of a railway in the vicinity of London, from Wandsworth to Croydon. In the twenty-three years that followed only 21 acts were passed for railways; showing the

little alacrity with which the new power was brought into use.

The application of steam to the purpose of propelling vessels in the water, made a contemporary and equally slow progress. It was first suggested by Jonathan Hulls a century ago, and attempted in France, in the United States of America, and on the Forth and Clyde canal, between the years 1781 and 1790. In 1801 an experiment already mentioned (p. 627; see also p. 170, for the first patent) was made on the Thames to navigate vessels by steam. These attempts do not appear to have been encouraging, and it was reserved for a later period successfully to repeat them. The ingenious Robert Fulton, a native of Pennsylvania, having witnessed the experiments of Mr. Miller of Dalswinton, on the Forth and Clyde canal, established a steam-boat in 1806 or 1807, which plied successfully on the river Hudson, between New York and Albany. It is likely that Fulton, who was a very skilful engineer, improved on what he had seen in England, and which emboldened him to claim the merit of the original discovery; but this honour could not be justly conceded to him, and its refusal is said to have preyed so much on his spirits as to have hastened his death, which took place at New York, February 24, 1815. The successful introduction of *steamers* in this country was a few years later than in America. The first steam-boat that was worked for hire in this kingdom was the *Comet*, a small vessel of three-horse power, which plied with passengers on the Clyde in 1811; two years later, the *Elizabeth*, of eight-horse power, and the *Clyde*, of fourteen-horse power, were placed on the same river. Since that time they have multiplied with astonishing rapidity; they have been adopted in the colonies, and in every civilized community: they are no longer limited to rivers nor lakes, nor seas, but regularly traverse the Atlantic with the safety and punctuality of a stage-coach.

There is another discovery connected with the subjects of this section, in the first introduction of the *locomotive carriage*. The *Sirius* and *Great Western* may be considered great locomotive steam-carriages on the waters, but those on land form a separate and distinct contrivance, though the motive powers of both are derived from the same mighty agent. Railways, for nearly two centuries after their introduction, were considered only as a means of economising, not superseding, animal labour. So early as 1759, the idea of applying steam-power for propelling carriages was thrown out by Dr. Robinson of Glasgow; and, in 1784, Watt, in the



specification of one of his patents, stated that it was intended to use his steam-engine for the same purpose ; but neither of these philosophers made any effort for reducing their suggestions to practice. In 1787 Mr. Symington exhibited the model of a steam-carriage in Edinburgh, but it was not until 1804 that Trevithick invented and brought into use a machine of this kind upon the railroad of Merthyr Tydvil in Wales.

It is a singular fact in the early history of locomotive carriages that their projectors assumed the existence of a difficulty which is now known to be wholly imaginary ; and, like the ancient Romans in the conveyance of water, without a knowledge that it would rise to its level, they resorted to sundry laborious contrivances for overcoming an obstacle that had no existence, and which Nature herself, had she been asked, would have accomplished for them. They assumed that the adhesion of the smooth wheels of the carriage upon the equally smooth iron rail must necessarily be so slight, that, if it should be attempted to drag any considerable weight, the wheels might indeed be driven round, but that the carriage would fail to advance because of the continued *slipping* of the wheels. The remedies devised for this fancied counter-action were various. One was conceived so valuable that a patent was taken out for it in 1811 by Mr. Blenkinsop of Leeds. It consisted, as the writer well remembers, of a rack placed on the outer side of the rail, into which a toothed wheel worked, and thus secured the progressive motion of the carriage. It was, however, wholly useless—it was an impediment ; the simple adhesion of the wheels with the surface of the rails upon which they are moved being by an immutable law amply sufficient to secure the advance, not only of a heavy carriage, but of an enormous load dragged after it. The honour of discovering this oversight is due to Mr. Blackett ; but the idea of a want of adhesion had taken such firm hold of the public mind that it was not generally removed till the opening, in 1830, of the Liverpool and Manchester railway.

A second misconception in the history of these inventions deserves to be recorded. It is a fact that of all the railways constructed and contemplated up to the opening of the Liverpool and Manchester line, not one was undertaken with a view to the conveyance of passengers. In the prospectus of that work, a hope was held out that one-half the number of persons then travelling by coaches between the two towns might avail themselves of the railway, in consideration of the lower rate for which they could be conveyed ; but the chief inducement held out to subscribers

was the conveyance of raw cotton, manufactured goods, coals, and cattle. On the contrary steam-vessels were originally projected for the conveyance, in rivers or coastwise, of passengers only ; and they were not employed in this kingdom for the transport of merchandise before the year 1820.

It does not belong to the plan of this work to exhibit the statistics of these extraordinary innovations ; only to record in chronological order, their introduction and progress. At the close of the present reign, the island was undergoing and, to a great extent, had undergone an entirely new demarcation with a zeal not less ardent, and capital and intelligence more ample, than signalized the beginning of turnpike roads and canal navigation. From London, as a centre, lines are radiating in all directions—east, west, north, and south ; and these lines are being met transversely by other lines, crossing and intersecting each other at the great estuaries of population and industry—Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool, Leeds, Norwich, and Edinburgh ; which a few years hence will form so many grand railway stations, whence individuals may reach any part of the kingdom in almost as short a time as they traverse the metropolis from one part to another, from Charing Cross to Mile End, Paddington, Camberwell, or Turnham Green.

Had not the government adhered so tenaciously to the *laissez faire* system of undertaking nothing and of interfering with nothing that can be executed by individuals, or the joint means of individuals, it is probable some of the new undertakings might have been carried on with more despatch, economy, and advantage to the public. A revolution is about being effected in internal communications, which forms an exception to the general principle of non-interference. The great thoroughfares of the kingdom are national works : they interest the entire community, and ought not to become the property of individuals but of the state, in which the fee-simple at least ought to be permanently vested. By leaving the great railways to be undertaken at the risk of private adventurers, the mode and cost of travelling will be dependent upon them, and it can be hardly made a subject of complaint hereafter if the projectors seek not only to indemnify themselves for their outlay of capital, but to realize an undefined profit proportioned to the uncertain results of the original speculation. The principle of open competition has had the further disadvantages of causing delay and unnecessary expenditure. Rival companies have competed at an immense cost for different lines, and the interests of private parties have inter-

ferred to bias the decisions of parliamentary committees; all or a portion of which evils would have been obviated by the government determining, by preliminary surveys, the most eligible lines, leaving only the execution open to general competition. The expenses incurred by the railway companies in these contests, in buying off opposition, and in battling their projects through parliament, has been enormous, as appears from the following statement of parliamentary charges incurred in obtaining acts of incorporation for the following undertakings:—

London and Birmingham . . .	£72,868
Great Western . . . . .	88,710
London and Southampton . . .	39,040
Midland Counties . . . . .	28,776
Birmingham and Gloucester . .	12,000
Great North of England . . .	20,526
The Grand Junction . . . . .	22,757
Bristol and Exeter . . . . .	18,592

All this outlay will have to be repaid by the public to the proprietors of the roads in the form of excessive fares, in addition to the enormous cost of the works. On the London and Birmingham line of 112 miles, had been expended up to June 30, 1838, eleven weeks before it was opened for traffic throughout, 4,553,557*l.* 1*l.* 9*d.*; and, in the opinion of the directors, the entire expenditure would amount to five millions before the works are in all respects complete. It is indicative of some precipitancy in these undertakings, that before the London and Birmingham railway had been finished, the Manchester extension line had been projected, by which the distance between that town and the capital would, by the Grand Junction and the Birmingham, be reduced from 208½ to 179 miles. The total estimated cost of the Great Western railway from London to Bristol, Aug. 15, 1838, was 4,560,928*l.* The total number of acts of parliament obtained for railways from the first in 1801 to 1837 inclusive, has been 174, of which number 97 have been passed in the present reign.

Steam-navigation has had to contend with fewer obstacles than transit and conveyance on land. No act of parliament was requisite for liberty to traverse the great highway of nations. No private interests were to conciliate. All that was required was enterprising capitalists to command suitable vessels, fuel, and machinery. In the first attempts to make long voyages on the ocean, the aid of steam was sought only as an auxiliary to that of the wind and waves. In this way the Enterprise effected the passage to India by the Cape of Good Hope in 1825 (p. 823), and that the Savannah crossed the Atlantic in 1819, and the Curaçoa

in 1828; but the successful experiments of the Great Western and Sirius have shown that 3000 miles of ocean may be traversed with steam as the only motive force. In this way repeated voyages were performed, in 1833, in the short period of 14 or 15 days between Bristol and New York; and vessels have been started for the same service belonging to the ports of London and Liverpool. The same agent has been called into action to facilitate communication with India. Early in June, 1837, an arrangement was concluded between the government and the directors of the East India Company, for the establishment of a regular monthly steam communication between this country and Bombay, by way of the Mediterranean, Suez, and the Red Sea. This route, instead of that by the Cape of Good Hope, reduces the distance nearly one-half, and letters can now be transmitted from London to Bombay in from 44 to 60 days time; or a further economy of time of from four to six days is obtainable by sending the mails overland to Marseilles, from which port steam-packets are despatched three times a month by the French government.

The following statement of the number and tonnage of steam-vessels belonging to the United Kingdom in each year from 1814 to 1837 inclusive, will show the rapid progress of this new marine power. The account is exclusive of steamers employed in river traffic, and which do not therefore require to be provided with a register.

Year.	Vessels.	Tonnage
1814 . . . . .	1 . . . .	69
1815 . . . . .	8 . . . .	638
1816 . . . . .	12 . . . .	947
1817 . . . . .	14 . . . .	1039
1818 . . . . .	19 . . . .	2332
1819 . . . . .	24 . . . .	2548
1820 . . . . .	34 . . . .	3018
1821 . . . . .	59 . . . .	6051
1822 . . . . .	85 . . . .	8457
1823 . . . . .	101 . . . .	10361
1824 . . . . .	114 . . . .	11733
1825 . . . . .	151 . . . .	15764
1826 . . . . .	228 . . . .	24186
1827 . . . . .	253 . . . .	27318
1828 . . . . .	272 . . . .	28010
1829 . . . . .	287 . . . .	29501
1830 . . . . .	295 . . . .	30009
1831 . . . . .	320 . . . .	32262
1832 . . . . .	348 . . . .	35238
1833 . . . . .	382 . . . .	38122
1834 . . . . .	424 . . . .	43429
1835 . . . . .	497 . . . .	52767
1836 . . . . .	554 . . . .	59362
1837 . . . . .	632 . . . .	71031

The number of steam-vessels employed under the American flag in 1834 was



386, with the aggregate burden of 96,000 tons: since that year the number has greatly augmented. On the rivers and in the ports of France there were employed in 1835 only 100 steam-vessels, and in 1836 the number was only increased by five vessels.

#### PROGRESS OF CRIME.

The greater number of crimes against property in England than in any other European country has formed a difficult problem to the philosophical inquirer. Distinguished by superior wealth and a high degree of civilization, it seems extraordinary that we should also be remarkable for a delinquency which is commonly supposed to be most prevalent under the pressure of want and misdirection of ignorance. Great as is this anomaly in our condition, it appears to admit of explanation, and both the magnitude and complexion of the criminal calendar may be traced to peculiarities in the national pursuits and possessions.

England is pre-eminently a mercantile community, abounding in manufactories, docks, wharfs, shipping, and well-stocked shops and warehouses; combined with these, commodities are constantly being transferred from one to another by sale or exchange, which affords opportunities, and enlarges the field of depredation. Commerce requires much personal confidence; clerks, porters, factors, and agents cannot always resist temptation. It is productive of luxury, leads to the assembling people together in large towns—to the creation of credit and paper-money—the intoxicating and illusive stimulant to over-speculation, and fruitful source of offences. It leads to sudden vicissitudes in men's fortunes, produces extreme inequality of rank, avidity of gain, and contempt for poverty; in short, makes a violent thirst for riches the predominant passion, and offences connected therewith the prominent trait of the community. Where there is little chattel property there cannot be much theft, either from the person, house, warehouse, or in transfer; where there is little agency embezzlement and breaches of trust must seldom occur, and where men, as in agricultural countries, form a fixed *caste*, liable to no unexpected alternations of condition, they are exempt from the vicious excitements to which sudden wealth or raging poverty is exposed. Hence, it is apprehended, may be traced the predominance of crimes against *property* in this country. We are peculiarly an enterprising, industrious, and emulative people; the range for plunder is wider and more seductive, the necessities of individuals more sudden and urgent, and the frequent

ebb and flows in their circumstances beget a reckless excitement which makes them little scrupulous about the means they employ to better their lot or repair their disasters.

On the other hand we are an enlightened people, and this seems to account for the *second* trait of criminal propensity in the comparative fewness of offences against the *PERSON*. Crimes accompanied with personal violence, and indicating greater depravity of heart, are fewer in England than on the continent. We are, in fact, too calculating a people to give way to the unprofitable impulses of passion, and hence crimes originating in revenge, jealousy, lust, or mere atrocity, do not frequently occur. Our offences are mercantile like our pursuits; even highway robbery is nearly extinct among us, and the depredations chiefly followed are burglary, forgery, coining, swindling, theft, pocket-picking, fraudulent insolvencies, and smuggling. They indicate no personal hostility to mankind, only a culpable mode of seeking those objects that are in general request and form the staple social distinction.

It is only by taking into consideration the influence of riches and poverty, of sudden vicissitudes of condition, of commerce and manufacturing industry, and of a state of foreign war or peace, that we can satisfactorily explain the anomalies in the history of crime. A moderate share of adversity is usually deemed favourable to the formation of virtuous habits; and by a contrary action a long course of public prosperity may tend to national demoralization. It is certainly observable that every general peace is mostly followed by increased licentiousness in manners, avarice, and criminality. The twelve years of uninterrupted peace during the reign of George I. were distinguished by the profligacy of individuals, impiety, and the indulgence of every criminal passion. In like manner, the pacific era of George II. poured into the country a flood of wealth and luxury, attended with their wonted disorders (see *pp.* 367, 423). Smollett, speaking of the general prosperity of the community, says, "Commerce and manufactures flourished again to such a degree of increase as had never been known in this island; but this advantage was attended with an irresistible tide of luxury and excess, which flowed through all degrees of the people, breaking down all the moulds of civil policy, and opening a way for licentiousness and immorality. The highways were infested with rapine and assassination; the cities teemed with the brutal votaries of lewdness, intemperance, and profligacy." Descending to the following reign we find a similar association.

The country was intoxicated with prosperity immediately after the general peace of 1763, and the profligacy, both in private individuals and public men, which distinguished that era far transcends modern examples. The state of society immediately preceding the French revolutionary war, when the country had attained a very high pitch of prosperity, affords further proof of our general position. Many living individuals can bear testimony to the after-dinner drinking, licentiousness, and debauchery, which then pervaded even the middle orders of the community; and the occurrences recorded in the *Chronicle*, just before and after that period, attest the violence, disorder, and corruption raging in the metropolis. The environs and outskirts of the town were overrun with footpads and highwaymen; burglary and housebreaking were crimes of the most ordinary occurrence; and gangs of villains, fifteen or twenty in number, used to parade the streets, in open defiance of the police, and plunder and ill-treat every passenger they met with impunity. It was to remedy these enormous evils, and reform an inefficient and corrupt magistracy, that Messrs. Dundas, Burton, and Wilberforce introduced the plan of a permanent stipendiary police, which soon proved one of the greatest improvements ever made in the municipal government of London.

The deteriorating effects of sudden vicissitudes and mercantile avidity may be elucidated by the example of 1825-6. The disastrous convulsion of that period was the natural consequence of the causes which had been slowly operating since the peace of 1815, and which till then had not reached their full development. It grew out of a vast accumulation of capital, and men, almost delirious with real or fictitious riches, seemed absolved from moral and social ties. Every class was infected, from the peer to the commoner; those deemed respectable, as well as the reputedly infamous, appeared promiscuously loosened to run a race of fraud and speculative rapacity. Can it be matter of surprise that offences multiplied, when not a single class in the community remained whose entire purity and example offered a reproach to the general turpitude?

The effects of a long pacific era are not limited to the criminal extravagances produced by redundant wealth; a species of *immoral energy* is generated among the population, for which there exists no legitimate outlet. Every one must have remarked in the circle in which he moves, whether living in a large town or country village, at college or at school, in a counting-house or manufactory, that a number of depraved and unruly spirits, in every grade of life, are constantly rising to the surface at

the age of adolescence; possessed of strong passions, of ardent and irregular minds, they have no aptitude for steady industry, nor the quiet pursuits which are their inheritance. In time of war the army and navy open to them a congenial field of enterprise; the recruiting sergeant, aided by 'the soul-stirring drum,' collects them, through the country, and, after being a source of domestic disorder and social annoyance, those of the better families obtain commissions, while the less opulent file in the ranks or man the fleet. In peace these channels are closed, the reckless and dissipated hang loose and unattached in the community, and, for want of suitable occupation, raise an intestine commotion against the laws and usages of civil life. The unsettled, courageous, and enterprising among the working classes resort to emigration, poaching, smuggling, or sedition—those of the middle orders, who have no alternative but trade, for which they are unfit, soon become bankrupt, whence they graduate as sporting men, gamblers, and fraudulent dealers. The remainder of the route need not be followed; from poaching, smuggling, habitual gambling and unprincipled traffic, the road to darker delinquencies is short, broad, and obvious.

It is scarcely necessary to explain that the preceding observations, on the derivation of the *personnel* of the army and navy, do not apply to the entire of these professions: many enter both branches of service of virtuous dispositions, of richly cultivated minds, actuated only by a thirst for romantic adventure and chivalrous distinction. Neither ought it to be inferred that peace is a national calamity; like every human good, it is not without alloy, but it is obvious that a small addition to the criminal calendar is a trifle compared with the countless miseries inflicted on society by warfare. It must form an unimportant consideration in the estimation of the legislator, that there are a few whose element is storm and strife, or whose ephemeral prosperity renders them frantic and vicious against the far greater number to whom peace yields plenteousness and quiet enjoyment, and against those national improvements in laws and institutions, in the general diffusion of literature and science, in works of utility and magnificence, which her beneficent sway tends to cherish and introduce. Our aim has been to show the connexion between peace and the growth of delinquency; it would have been easy to array overwhelming countervailing benefits to society, but our purpose was limited to an elucidation of some of the causes that may have helped, in the existing state of educational culture, to give the character to the



criminal returns to which we are going to advert.

The public attention to the increase of crime was especially directed in 1828 by the reports of two parliamentary committees, one on the police of the metropolis, the other on criminal commitments in England and Wales. It appeared from these inquiries that the total committals for offences in London and Middlesex, from 1811 to 1817, amounted to 13,415; in an equal period from 1821 to 1827, to 19,883; being an average annual increase of 924, or 48 per cent. The increase of convictions was 642 per annum or 55 per cent. But the population was computed to have increased 19 per cent.; leaving of the committals 29 per cent., and of the convictions 36 per cent., to be accounted for by other causes than the increase of population. In the country crime was found to have increased more rapidly than in the metropolis; commitments having increased 86 per cent., and convictions 105 per cent.; while population had only increased in the provinces 16½ per cent.

The class of offences that had chiefly multiplied were those against property. The darker and more atrocious class of crimes, those directed against the person, it was alleged, had not increased so fast as population, and the parliamentary committee on commitments affirmed that "life and limb" were never less exposed to violence. The causes assigned for the increase of crime in the metropolis were principally the increase in population—the cheapness of spirituous liquors—the neglect of children by their parents—the want of employment—absence of suitable provisions for juvenile delinquents—defective prison discipline and police. To these were added other causes by the committee on committals, as more peculiar to the country, and accounting partly for an increase of crime, and partly for its 'greater exhibition to public view' without evidencing any virtual increase of depravity—namely, the payment of prosecutors their expenses in cases of misdemeanor—the malicious trespass act—decline in domestic superintendence—readiness with which magistrates commit for offences—defective and unsuitable punishments—improvement in the art of crime faster than the art of detection, and bringing before the tribunals petty offences which were formerly either settled by summary chastisement inflicted by the sufferer on the delinquent, or passed over without magisterial cognizance. All these circumstances, as well as the more general causes adverted to at the beginning of this article, may have contributed in different degrees to swell the criminal calendar. They may have been so energetic in

counteraction as to outweigh the benefits resulting from improvements in criminal law, and the moral influence of the popular diffusion of knowledge.

Since the inquiries of 1828 there has been some fluctuation in the progress of offences; in some years they have decreased, but this diminution has been more than counterbalanced by the accelerated increase of succeeding years, so that the general result is that crimes have increased at a faster rate than the population. The following table will render the whole subject intelligible by presenting it in one view; showing the progress of crime during the war, and subsequently to the end of the present reign:—

*Statement of the number of COMMITTALS for offences in England and Wales, from 1805 to 1837 inclusive, and the proportion of committals to the computed amount of the POPULATION.*

Year.	Com.	Population.	One to
1805	4,605	9,422,763	2,046
1806	4,346	9,464,103	2,177
1807	4,446	9,606,064	2,160
1808	4,735	9,750,154	2,056
1809	5,360	9,896,405	1,846
1810	5,146	9,944,851	1,942
1811	5,337	10,163,676	1,904
1812	6,576	10,369,362	1,577
1813	7,164	10,524,901	1,461
1814	6,390	10,775,034	1,673
1815	7,818	10,974,437	1,412
1816	9,091	11,160,577	1,227
1817	13,932	11,349,750	815
1818	13,567	11,524,389	850
1819	14,254	11,700,965	827
1820	13,710	11,893,155	875
1821	13,115	11,978,875	878
1822	12,241	12,313,810	1,006
1823	12,263	12,508,950	1,020
1824	13,698	12,699,098	926
1825	14,437	12,881,906	892
1826	16,164	13,056,931	807
1827	17,924	13,242,019	740
1828	16,564	13,441,913	801
1829	18,675	13,620,071	723
1830	18,107	13,811,467	762
1831	19,647	13,897,187	707
1832	20,829	14,105,645	682
1833	20,073	14,317,229	713
1834	22,451	14,531,957	691
1835	20,731	14,752,430	712
1836	20,984	14,973,716	713
1837	23,612	15,198,321	643

The criminal tables have been much improved during the last four years, by a careful classification of offences, the distinction of the sexes of offenders, their ages, and the degree of education they had received. The number of committals stated above exceeds the number of offenders, many persons for larcenies and other misdemeanors being committed twice, thrice,

or oftener in the same year, so that the number in the fourth column rather represents the annual proportion of offences than offenders to the population. Previously to the year 1834 the offences of conspiring to raise wages, riots, breaches of the peace, keeping disorderly houses, and assaults on constables, were not included in the criminal returns. It is these which swell the committals of that year to 22,451; whereas there was an actual decrease of crime in 1834, and had the former practice been adhered to, by the omission of the offences just mentioned, the number of committals would have been only 19,927.

The statistics of crime are a questionable criterion of the standard of national morals and civilization. The table above exhibits an enormous increase, since the beginning of the century, in the number of delinquents, without affording conclusive proof of deterioration in the manners of the people. During the war, as already explained, many found a refuge in the army and navy, who, since the peace, have worked out a reckless course in the gaols and prisons, the colonial dependencies, and penal settlements of the empire. The slow increase of *female* offenders has always appeared to the writer satisfactory evidence that national character has not degenerated; for, had there been a growing depravity in the community, it must have been shared in by the women as well as the men; and the existence of it would have been attested by a corresponding augmentation in the number of feminine committals. The reason that offences have increased among the men is that commercial property, and transactions connected with property, have increased. Females have been much less affected by this revolution than the males, and hence, while the number of committals of the former has increased from 1805 to 1837 only 214 per cent., that of the latter has increased 494 per cent. The committals of the sexes during this period were as follows:—

Years.	Males.	Females.
1805 .	3,267 .	1,338
1810 .	3,733 .	1,413
1815 .	6,036 .	1,782
1820 .	11,595 .	2,115
1825 .	11,889 .	2,548
1830 .	15,135 .	2,972
1831 .	16,600 .	3,047
1832 .	17,486 .	3,433
1833 .	16,804 .	3,268
1834 .	18,880 .	3,571
1835 .	.. .	.. .
1836 .	.. .	.. .
1837 .	19,407 .	4,205

A result derived by M. Guerry from his statistical inquiries in France, and which

has been reluctantly admitted, probably admits of explanation by reference to the principles mentioned. It has been found that the most *educated* districts are the most criminal, but it would be extremely erroneous to infer from hence that the greater proportion of crime is the consequence of education. The most instructed portion of a population is usually found in the parts most densely peopled; they are the inhabitants of towns, abounding in riches, and whose occupations are commercial and manufacturing. Their criminality is not a result of superior instruction, but in defiance of its checks and monitions—the consequence of greater temptations and a more changeable condition, which are incidents of their lot perfectly reconcilable with a higher state of social happiness than that enjoyed by the agricultural classes.

A great experiment has been for some years in progress in criminal legislation in the gradual abolition of capital punishments. During the war, and until the 11. notes of the bank of England were withdrawn from circulation, many were yearly executed for forgery. Forgery of every description has now ceased to be a capital offence. In 1837 the number of offences to which the extreme penalty of the law could be applied, were reduced to treason, murder, rape, sodomy, burglary, robbery with violence, and arson with intent to commit murder. Under the severity of the old law, great numbers annually suffered death. In the 26 years from 1805 to 1830 the total number of capital executions in England and Wales was 1938; being above 74 per annum. In the three years ending in 1820, 1830, and 1836, the number of executions was respectively 312, 178, and 85. In 1836 there were 17 executions; in 1837 only *eight*, all of which were for murders of an atrocious character.

The time of experience is yet too brief to afford a safe ground for concluding on the practical tendency of the milder system of punishments. It forms an interesting subject of moral investigation to trace the influence on crime of changes in the laws, and of the alterations in the condition of the people produced by peace or war, prosperous or adverse circumstances, vicissitudes of the seasons, ignorance and knowledge, transitions from rural to manufacturing industry, and all the other elements that enter into the formation of national character. Most, if not all, the data for this inquiry may be found in the preceding pages of this work, and will be easily brought to bear by the reader to elucidate the progress of criminality. The short term of the present reign has been remarkable for a decrease, but still more for an increase of delinquency. The de-



crease of crime, which commenced in 1833, and continued through the two following years, amounting in the aggregate to 13 per cent., appears, in 1836, to have suffered a slight check. In that year crime increased one per cent. In 1837 the increase of offenders was far more considerable, amounting to 2,628 persons, or nearly 12½ per cent.; exceeding by 11 per cent. the computed rate of increase in the population. This increase has taken place in 33 English counties, and in both North and South Wales. In the county of Northampton the increase was 59 per cent., and in each of the counties of Stafford, Cornwall, Leicester, Wilts, Bucks, Dorset, and Berks, the increase was upwards of 30 per cent. It was only in the seven counties of Middlesex, Surrey, Bedford, Norfolk, Cambridge, Suffolk, and Huntingdon, that there was a decrease. Two causes assigned for the augmentation of offenders are the increased proportion of apprehensions consequent on the establishment of a more efficient police in the municipal towns, and to the greater facilities afforded for criminal proceedings.

These changes may account for a temporary increase in the committals, but this is not the main issue to be tried. Crimes may multiply or diminish in particular years, from transitory and obvious causes; but the momentous fact to be investigated is the cause of the average and steady growth of delinquency since the beginning of the present century. This is the problem for scrutiny, and which requires a general, not a local or temporary, solution.

The phenomenon cannot be explained by any great moral revolution the country has undergone. During the last forty years there has been neither political, religious, institutional, or educational change, adequate to account for this lamentable alteration in the national character. Knowledge has become more diffused, but no new principles of action have been disseminated among the masses, tending to give a more criminal direction to the popular mind. The great alterations in the social structure have been physical rather than moral or intellectual. In this respect, society has undergone an organic revolution. The predominant industrial occupations of the community have changed from the agricultural to the manufacturing and metropolitan. This cause has been constant and progressive in its course, contemporary with the accelerated growth of delinquency; and in this transition, and the consequent riches that have accompanied it, may be traced, we suspect, the primary origin of the increase in property-offences.

That a metropolitan and manufacturing population is more criminal than an agricultural people will be manifest from an inspection of the table we subjoin. Take the numbers for the year 1832. In Middlesex one out of every 360 of the population was an offender, and in Lancaster, one out of every 501. Compare these results with the great rural counties of Devon and Lincoln, where the proportion of offenders is only one in 1028, and one in 1659 of the inhabitants. In the year 1837 a corresponding relation is observable, though it is remarkable that in the intervening five years, the agricultural counties have approximated in the darker complexion of their criminal proportions nearer to those of London and the provincial towns.

Subjoined is the classification alluded to, exhibiting the whole of the English counties ranged according to their industrial character, and the proportion of offenders to the population of each county as returned in the census of 1831:

*Manufacturing and Mining.*

	1832	1837
	<i>One in</i>	<i>One in</i>
Lancaster . . .	501	475
York . . .	892	970
Warwick . . .	478	382
Stafford . . .	588	451
Nottingham . . .	656	734
Chester . . .	585	542
Durham . . .	1,601	1,257
Monmouth . . .	892	635
Worcester . . .	668	516
Salop . . .	852	884
Average . . .	771	685

*Metropolitan and Manufacturing.*

Surrey . . .	526	512
Kent . . .	646	534
Sussex . . .	962	648
Cornwall . . .	1,550	1,071
Cumberland . . .	2,262	1,101
Southampton . . .	677	—
Gloucester . . .	439	427
Derby . . .	1,068	1,040
Leicester . . .	795	456
Middlesex . . .	360	415
Somerset . . .	580	393
Hertford . . .	489	428
Average . . .	862	636

*Agricultural.*

Devon . . .	1,028	736
Essex . . .	466	425
Bedford . . .	953	776
Suffolk . . .	654	601
Berks . . .	753	538
Oxford . . .	699	559
Westmoreland . . .	1,965	2,201
Northumberland . . .	2,786	1,179

Cambridge. . . . .	716	550
Norfolk . . . . .	733	591
Bucks . . . . .	773	568
Lincoln . . . . .	1,629	770
Dorset . . . . .	959	622
Wilts . . . . .	691	498
Huntingdon . . . . .	1,563	794
Northampton . . . . .	919	601
Hereford . . . . .	755	597
Rutland . . . . .	1,938	718
Hampshire . . . . .	677	505
Average . . . . .	1,139	731
do. England . . . . .	633	565
do. Wales . . . . .	2,341	1,684
do. England & Wales . . . . .	667	588

A cursory glance at the above shows that crime is less prevalent in the agricultural than in the metropolitan and manufacturing counties. In 1832 the proportions were in

Manufacturing and mining . . . . .	one in 771
Metropolitan and manufacturing do. . . . .	862
Agricultural counties . . . . .	do. 1139

This was the fact sought to be demonstrated. It satisfactorily unravels the mystery of an increase of crime since the peace of Amiens. The metropolitan and manufacturing population, which is the most delinquent, having increased faster than the agricultural, there has been an aggregate increase in the number of offences. This conclusion will appear irrefragable and less liable to objection, by bringing into comparison only the larger counties of each industrial class, as follows :—

#### *Manufacturing Counties.*

	1832	1837
	<i>One in</i>	<i>One in</i>
Lancaster . . . . .	501	475
York . . . . .	892	970
Warwick . . . . .	478	382
Stafford . . . . .	588	451
Nottingham . . . . .	656	734
Chester . . . . .	585	542
Monmouth . . . . .	892	635
Average—one in . . . . .	665	598

#### *Metropolitan Counties.*

Middlesex . . . . .	360	415
Surrey . . . . .	526	512
Average—one in . . . . .	443	467

#### *Agricultural Counties.*

	1832	1837
	<i>One in</i>	<i>One in</i>
Devon . . . . .	1,023	736
Essex . . . . .	456	425
Bedford . . . . .	953	776
Suffolk . . . . .	654	601
Berks . . . . .	753	538
Northumberland . . . . .	2,786	1,179
Kent . . . . .	646	534
Hampshire . . . . .	677	505
Wiltshire . . . . .	691	498

Average—one in 960 . . . . . 643

In 1832, in the seven manufacturing counties, one criminal to 665 of the population; in two metropolitan counties, one in 443; and in nine agricultural counties, only one criminal to 960 of the population. The cause of the predominance of crime in manufacturing districts has been already explained; it is no proof of greater general depravity, but compatible with a higher standard of morals, more physical enjoyment, and greater security to persons and property. In Scotland, in 1832, there was only one offender to 973 of the inhabitants, and in Wales only one to 2348; owing doubtless to the less riches and greater predominance of rural industry in these divisions of the kingdom. In respect of crimes against property, Spain is three times less vicious than France, and seven times less criminal than England. The reason is obvious enough. In Spain, crimes, if committed at all, must be crimes against the *person* (and such predominate), not against property, since there comparatively is none. It is hard to be a thief where there is nothing to steal; you cannot, as the Scotch proverb says, steal the "*brecks*" from nudity. Hence the peculiarities in the Spanish criminal calendar. No one who is acquainted with the three countries infers that the moral character of Spain is superior, or even equal, to that of France or England.

The criminal returns for England and Wales for 1837 present remarkable results. The centesimal increase of crime in that year beyond 1836 was nearly 12·5 per cent. This enormous addition ought to fix general attention. By glancing at the last comparative table may be perceived the relative state of crime in 1832 and 1837 in different parts of the country. Crime in the interval appears to have been nearly stationary in the manufacturing counties, but to have increased enormously in the agricultural districts. In 1832 the ratio was only one in 960; in 1837 it had increased to one in 643 of the rural population. There has been no improvement in



rural police, as in municipal towns, to account for the increase of apprehensions; consequently there must have been a positive increase of delinquency. The rustic population is rapidly approximating, in its dark traits, to that of towns, without the temptations or countervailing benefits of manufacturing industry. In Ireland, where the state of society is notoriously distempered, the proportion of committals to the population was, in 1832, 1 in 565; in 1834, 1 in 363; and in 1836, 1 in 325: the returns from which these proportions have been deduced, are not much to be relied upon; but, if they be near the truth, they indicate a degree of criminality in the first-mentioned period, not greatly exceeding that of England in 1837. The only legislative change, during the last five years, affecting the agricultural classes, has been the introduction of the Poor Law Amendment Act. It is in the rural districts that this experimental measure has been most generally and sharply introduced. How far its introduction may have tended to deteriorate the character of the labourers in husbandry—to drive indigence from the workhouse to the gaol—to convert the pauper into a criminal—are matters seriously deserving the consideration of parliament. The “considerable increase in *sheep-stealing* in each of the last two years, and in larceny by servants,” which is noticed in the Criminal Tables of

the Home Office, for 1837 (page 2), indicates a pressure on the labouring classes that did not previously exist.

The Criminal Returns for England and Wales, for 1836 and 1837, specify the degree of *instruction* offenders had received. The decimal proportions, at these periods, are as under:—

	1836.	1837.
Unable to read and write .	33·52	35·37
Able to read and write imperfectly . . . . .	52·33	52·08
Able to read and write well	10·56	9·46
Instruction, superior to reading and writing well	0·91	0·43
Instruction could not be ascertained . . . . .	2·68	2·18

Mr. Redgrave, in his synopsis of the returns, says, that of 358 offenders in 1837. “aged 12 years and under, 50 per cent. were uninstructed; 48 per cent. were able to read and write imperfectly, and little more than 1 per cent. to read and write well.”

In France, crimes against the person are more numerous, and against property fewer than in England. The proportion of the former is 1 in 2188 of the population; of the latter 1 in 1766. Comparing this with England, the proportion of personal offences is 1 in 9629; and of property offences, 1 in 955 of the population. (*Companion to the Almanac for 1836*, p. 59).

#### CRIME IN THE METROPOLIS.

*Comparative Statement of the Number of Individuals taken into Custody by the Metropolitan Police for the years 1831-2-3-4.*

	1831.	1832.	1833.	1834.
Taken into custody . . . . .	72,824	77,543	69,959	64,269
Summarily convicted by the magistrates	21,843	23,458	20,791	26,302
Committed for trial . . . . .	2,955	3,656	3,672	3,468
Discharged by the magistrates . . . . .	48,026	50,429	45,496	34,499

A very large proportion of the charges before the magistrates are of a minor character. In 1833, it appears 45,496 charges were dismissed by the magistrates without ulterior proceedings. The largest items in the catalogue of offences in that year, were—

Drunken charges brought before the magistrates . . . . .	11,393
Drunken charges discharged by the superintendents . . . . .	18,487
Disorderly characters . . . . .	5,721
Prostitutes . . . . .	3,427
Assaults . . . . .	5,721
Larcenies . . . . .	7,858
Suspicious characters . . . . .	3,201
Vagrants . . . . .	6,721

Out of the large number of 29,800 drunkards, no less than 12,000 were females!

The total expenditure on account of the metropolitan police, for the year ending Dec. 31, 1836, was 216,313*l*.

These statements do not include the crime and police of the city of London.

**BRITISH MUSEUM.**—Number of visits made to the reading-rooms, for the purpose of study and research, about 1950 in 1810; 63,466 in 1835; 62,360 in 1836; 69,936 in 1837. Artists and students to the galleries of sculpture for the purpose of study, 6081 in 1835; 7052 in 1836; 5570 in 1837. Number of visits made to the print-room, 1065 in 1835; 2916 in 1836; 4429 in 1837.

Number of persons admitted to view the general collections, in 1832, 147,896; 1833, 210,495; 1834, 237,366; 1835 289,104; 1836, 383,147; 1837, 321,151.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.

The following table shows the number of the present house of lords created in each reign:—

<i>A. D.</i>	<i>Reign.</i>	<i>Peers.</i>
1264 . . .	Henry III. . .	2
1295-1299 . .	Edward I. . .	7
1307-1324 . .	Edward II. . .	4
1442-1461 . .	Henry VI. . .	5
1483 . . .	Richard III. . .	1
1492 . . .	Henry VII. . .	1
1514-1539 . .	Henry VIII. . .	7
1547-1551 . .	Edward VI. . .	4
1553-1554 . .	Mary . . .	2
1559-1579 . .	Elizabeth . . .	6
1603-1624 . .	James I. . .	17
1626-1644 . .	Charles I. . .	11
1660-1683 . .	Charles II. . .	17
1686 . . .	James II. . .	1
1689-1699 . .	William III. . .	7
1703-1712 . .	Anne . . .	14
1714-1725 . .	George I. . .	14
1728-1760 . .	George II. . .	20
1761-1817 . .	George III. . .	145
1821-1829 . .	George IV. . .	45
1830-1837 . .	William IV. . .	29

A creation of peers has mostly taken place on the accession of a new family, the commencement of a new reign, or to carry political measures. On the death of queen Elizabeth the peers only amounted to 56. James, being the first of a new dynasty, raised the number to 105, and Charles I. to 135; Charles II. created 15 dukes, (six of whom were his natural children,) 1 marquis, 37 earls, 3 countesses, 2 viscounts, and 29 barons. At the revolution, William III. raised 8 powerful earls to dukedoms; created 18 earls, 3 viscounts, and 9 barons. Anne increased the peerage to 170. The accession of the house of Brunswick gave rise to new creations. George I. either created or elevated no fewer than 49 peers. George II. left 184. It is evident that the great increase of the peerage was in the reign of George III., being more than doubled. In 1777 a batch of peers was drafted from the commons into the lords, to effect a ministerial majority. This expedient was frequently resorted to by Mr. Pitt. In 1797 ten peers were made. He nearly created the order of marquises: he made 10 marquises in England where there was but one; and 9 in Ireland, where there was none. Knighthood was also freely bestowed. No doubt this lavish distribution of honours was partly the consequence of the war, and of the vastly increasing riches of the middle classes.

The peers created during the long reign of George III. have been classified (*Quarterly Review*, lxxxiv. 314) as follows:—  
Landed commoners, 46; Irish peers, 56;

Scotch peers, 24; law, 25; state, 23; army, 13; navy, 10; younger sons and younger branches of peers, 17; renewals, 7; confirmations, 7; peeresses, 5; total 235: from which must be deducted 74 extinctions, making the additions to the peerage 161.

George IV. added 64 members to the upper house. In this number are included individuals who were raised to the peerage, or in whose favour an abeyance terminated, as well as peers of Scotland and Ireland who obtained English baronies. It does not, however, include Scotch peerages which were restored, nor the creation of peers of Ireland; of claims to English peerages which were admitted, nor elevations of English peerages to higher honours. The average rate at which peers were created during the two former reigns was four per annum; and was the same rate of increase to continue for a century, it would double the existing number of parliamentary lords.

The political character of the peers created is naturally determined by that of the ministry of the time, from whom their honours are received. Toryism being the ascendant school of politics during the reign of George III. and his successor, the peers created mostly belonged to that denomination of statesmen. This fact was manifest on the first introduction of the Reform Bill into the house of lords. Of the *old* peers of the United Kingdom, there was a majority of two for the second reading of the bill. Of the *new* peers of the United Kingdom, created subsequent to 1792, the majority was *against* the second reading of the bill, and their number was only balanced by the creations of the whig ministry.

The number of peers who sat in the house of lords at the death of George IV. was 403, and which number increased, during the reign of his successor, to 432.

The following is the number and denomination of the peers who sat in the upper house, on the accessions of William IV. and queen Victoria:—

	<i>Will.</i>	<i>Vict.</i>
Princes of the blood royal . . .	5	3
Dukes . . . . .	19	21
Marquises . . . . .	18	19
Earls . . . . .	105	107
Viscounts . . . . .	22	16
Barons . . . . .	160	192
Peers of Scotland . . . . .	16	16
Peers of Ireland . . . . .	28	28
English Archbishops and Bishops . . . . .	26	26
Irish representative Archbishops and Bishops . . . . .	4	4
Total . . . . .	403	432



## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

*Number of Parliaments held in each reign, from 27th Edward I. A.D. 1299, to the end of the present reign, showing also the respective length of each reign.*

	<i>Parls.</i>	<i>Reign</i>
Edward I. from 1299,	8	8
Edward II.	15	20
Edward III.	37	50
Richard II.	26	22
Henry IV.	10	14
Henry V.	11	9
Henry VI.	22	39
Edward IV.	5	22
Richard III.	1	2
Henry VII.	8	24
Henry VIII.	3	38
Edward VI.	2	6
Mary	5	5
Elizabeth	10	45
James I.	4	22
Charles I.	4	24
Charles II.	8	36
James II.	3	4

	<i>Parls.</i>	<i>Reign.</i>
William III.	6	13
Anne	6	12
George I.	2	13
George II.	6	33
George III.	11	59
George IV.	2	10
William IV.	4	7

From this table it appears that in the 461 years preceding the reign of George III. there were 202 parliaments, whose average duration was  $2\frac{1}{2}$  years; and that in 210 years preceding the reign of Henry VIII. there were 143 parliaments, averaging rather less than  $1\frac{1}{2}$  year each. In the 69 years of the reigns of George III. and IV. there were only 13 parliaments, averaging five years and one-third each. In the reign of William IV. there were four two before and two after the Reform Act.

The following abstracts show the gradual alterations in and additions to the representation of the people up to the period of the Reform Acts:—

*Shires and Universities.*

	<i>No. of Members.</i>
Edward I. . . and preceding monarchs, 37 counties	74
Henry VIII. . . Shires of Chester and Monmouth	4
. . . 12 Welsh counties, 1 member each	12
James I. . . . the 2 universities	4
Charles II. . . Durham county	2
Anne . . . . 30 Scotch Counties, with 1 member each	30
George III. . . Irish county members	64
. . . Irish university	1
George IV. . . Yorkshire County	2
William IV. . . changes in this reign, see p. 919 and post.	

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*Cities and Boroughs.*

Edward I. . . and preceding monarchs, created 78 boroughs, with } . . . 2 members each, and London with 4	160
Edward II. . . created 6 boroughs, with 2 members each	12
Edward III. . . created 9 boroughs, with 2 members each . 18 } . . . restored 2 boroughs, with 2 members each . 4 }	22
Henry VI. . . created 5 boroughs, with 2 members each . 10 } . . . restored 2 boroughs, with 2 members each . 4 }	14
Edward IV. . . created 3 boroughs, with 2 members each . 6 } . . . restored 1 borough, with 2 members' . 2 }	8
Henry VIII. . . created 4 boroughs, with 2 members each . 8 } . . . created 12 Welsh boroughs, 1 member each . 12 }	21
. . . created 1 borough, with 1 member . 1 }	
Edward VI. . . created 14 boroughs, with 2 members each . 28 } . . . restored 10 boroughs, with 2 members each . 20 }	48
Mary . . . . created 7 boroughs with 2 members each . 14 } . . . created 3 boroughs, with 1 member each . 3 }	21
. . . restored 2 boroughs, with 2 members each . 4 }	
Elizabeth . . . created 24 boroughs, with 2 members each . 48 } . . . restored 8 boroughs, with 2 members each . 16 }	64
James I. . . . created 3 boroughs, with 2 members' each . 6 } . . . created 1 borough with 1 member . 1 }	23
. . . restored 8 boroughs, with 2 members each . 16 }	

Carried forward . . . 339

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*Cities and Boroughs.*

	Brought forward	339	393
Charles I. . . restored 9 boroughs, with 2 members each . . .			18
Charles II. . . created 2 boroughs, with 2 members each . . .			4
Anne . . . added 15 Scotch boroughs, with 1 member each . . .			15
George III. . . added 35 Irish cities and boroughs . . .			35
George IV. . . disfranchised Grampond for bribery 1 & 2			
Geo. 4, c. 47.		339	465

*Distribution of the elective franchise, and number of members returned for the different sections of the United Kingdom prior to the Reform Acts.*

Cornwall, 42; Wilts, 34; York, 32 . . .	108
Sussex, 28; Dorset, 30; Suffolk, 16; Stafford, 10 . . . . .	74
Devon and Hants . . . . . each	26 52
Kent and Somerset . . . . . each	18 36
Bucks, Lancaster, and Surrey each	14 42
Lincoln, Norfolk, and Salop each	12 36
Berks, Northampton, Oxford and Worcester . . . . . each	9 36
Essex, Gloucester, Hereford, Middlesex, Northumberland, and Nottingham . . . . . each	8 48
Cambridge, Cumberland, Hertford, and Warwick . . . . . each	6 24
Bedford, Chester, Derby, Durham, Huntingdon, Leicester, and Westmorland . . . . . each	4 28
Monmouth, 3; Rutland, 2 . . . .	5
Wales, 24; Scotland, 45; Ireland, 100 . . . . .	169
Making the total number of members	658

The following was usually given as the distribution of PARLIAMENTARY PATRONAGE prior to the Reform Act; a majority of the house of commons being returned by the nomination of peers, commoners, or the treasury.

Members returned by 87 peers in	
England and Wales . . . . .	218
21 peers in Scotland . . . . .	31
36 peers in Ireland . . . . .	51
Total returned by peers . . . . .	300
Members returned by 90 commoners in England and Wales	137
14 commoners in Scotland	14
19 commoners in Ireland.	20
Members nominated by government . . . . .	16
Total returned by commoners and government . . . . .	187
Total returned by nomination . . . .	487
Independent of nomination . . . . .	171
Total of the House of Commons	658

The boroughs which returned members under the old system of representation were of three sorts: *first*, the close or pocket-boroughs, in which the power of returning the members was exercised by one or two individuals; *secondly*, the corporation or charter-boroughs, in which the members were returned by a dozen or more of self-elected corporators, mostly under the control of peers or commoners; *thirdly*, the open boroughs, in which the electors varied in number from 500 to 10,000 and upwards. These last, with the exception of the cities of Westminster and London, and one or two others, were as marketable as the rest; many of the voters were non-residents, and consisting generally of the poorer class of freemen and householders, they openly sold their franchises to the highest bidder. It has been calculated that under the old representation, exclusive of county and metropolitan electors, three-fourths of the remaining body of electors in England belonged to the labouring classes.

The preceding tables show the progress and state of parliamentary representation up to the passing of the Reform Bill; the following will show the changes effected by the Grey ministry. The population of the boroughs disfranchised and enfranchised has been taken from the census of 1831.

*Population of the FIFTY-SIX BOROUGHES totally disfranchised by the Reform Bill.*

Old Sarum . . . . .	12
Newtown, I. W. . . . .	68
St. Michael . . . . .	97
Gatton . . . . .	145
Bramber . . . . .	97
Bossiney . . . . .	1006
Dunwich . . . . .	232
Ludgershall . . . . .	555
St. Mawe's . . . . .	459
Beeralston . . . . .	—
West Looe . . . . .	593
St. Germain's . . . . .	2586
Newport, C. . . . .	1084
Blechingley . . . . .	1203
Aldborough . . . . .	2475
Camelford . . . . .	1359
Hindon . . . . .	921



East Looe . . . . .	865
Corfe Castle . . . . .	960
Great Bedwin . . . . .	2191
Yarmouth . . . . .	586
Queenborough . . . . .	736
Castle Rising . . . . .	888
East Grinstead . . . . .	3364
Higham Ferrers . . . . .	965
Wendover . . . . .	2008
Weobly . . . . .	819
Winchelsea . . . . .	772
Tregony . . . . .	1127
Haslemere . . . . .	849
Saltash . . . . .	3029
Orford . . . . .	1302
Callington . . . . .	1388
Newton, L. . . . .	2137
Ilchester . . . . .	975
Boroughbridge . . . . .	950
Stockbridge . . . . .	851
Romney, N. . . . .	378
Hedon . . . . .	1080
Plympton . . . . .	804
Seaford . . . . .	1098
Heytesbury . . . . .	1413
Steyning . . . . .	1436
Whitchurch . . . . .	1673
Wootton Bassett . . . . .	1896
Downton . . . . .	3961
Fowey . . . . .	1767
Milborne Port . . . . .	2072
Aldburgh . . . . .	1538
Minehead . . . . .	1494
Bishop's Castle . . . . .	1729
Okehampton . . . . .	2055
Appleby . . . . .	1359
Lostwithiel . . . . .	1074
Brackley . . . . .	2107
Amersham . . . . .	2816

*Population of the THIRTY BOROUGHs, of which the Representatives were reduced to one by the Reform Act.*

Petersfield . . . . .	1423
Ashburton . . . . .	4165
Eye . . . . .	2313
Westbury . . . . .	7324
Wareham . . . . .	2325
Midhurst . . . . .	1478
Woodstock . . . . .	1320
Wilton . . . . .	1997
Malmesbury . . . . .	2785
Liskeard . . . . .	2853
Reigate . . . . .	3397
Hythe . . . . .	2287
Droitwich . . . . .	2487
Lyme Regis . . . . .	2621
Launceston . . . . .	2231
Shaftesbury . . . . .	3061
Thirsk . . . . .	2835
Christchurch . . . . .	1599
Horsham . . . . .	5105
Great Grimsby . . . . .	4225
Calne . . . . .	4795

Arundel . . . . .	2804
St. Ives . . . . .	4776
Rye . . . . .	3715
Ciitheroe . . . . .	5213
Morpeth . . . . .	5156
Helston . . . . .	3293
North Allerton . . . . .	5118
Wallingford . . . . .	2545
Dartmouth . . . . .	4597

*New Boroughs empowered to return TWO MEMBERS to Parliament.*

Manchester . . . . .	187,022
Birmingham . . . . .	142,251
Leeds . . . . .	123,323
Greenwich . . . . .	62,009
Sheffield . . . . .	90,657
Sunderland . . . . .	43,078
Devonport . . . . .	44,454
Wolverhampton . . . . .	67,414
Tower Hamlets . . . . .	359,820
Finsbury . . . . .	244,077
Marylebone . . . . .	240,294
Lambeth . . . . .	203,329
Bolton . . . . .	41,195
Bradford . . . . .	23,233
Blackburn . . . . .	27,091
Brighton . . . . .	40,684
Halifax . . . . .	15,382
Macclesfield . . . . .	23,129
Oldham . . . . .	50,513
Stockport . . . . .	25,469
Stoke-upon-Trent . . . . .	52,946
Stroud . . . . .	13,721

*New Boroughs empowered to return ONE MEMBER to Parliament.*

Ashton-under-Lyne . . . . .	33,597
Bury . . . . .	15,086
Chatham . . . . .	19,000
Cheltenham . . . . .	22,942
Dudley . . . . .	23,043
Frome . . . . .	12,270
Gateshead . . . . .	15,177
Huddersfield . . . . .	31,041
Kidderminster . . . . .	14,981
Kendal . . . . .	11,265
Rochdale . . . . .	25,764
Salford . . . . .	50,810
South Shields . . . . .	18,756
Tynemouth . . . . .	16,926
Wakefield . . . . .	12,232
Walsall . . . . .	15,060
Warrington . . . . .	16,018
Whitby . . . . .	10,399
Whitehaven . . . . .	17,808
Merthyr Tydvil . . . . .	

*Registered ELECTORS in the United Kingdom.*

In the years 1834-5, the number was as follows:—

	<i>England.</i>	<i>Wales.</i>	<i>Scotland.</i>	<i>Ireland.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Counties . . .	357 053	26,796	36,677	65,358	485,884
Boroughs . . .	273,668	11,128	36,043	32,648	353,487
Total . . .	630,721	37,924	72,720	98,006	839,371

Male Population in 1831:—

	<i>England.</i>	<i>Wales.</i>	<i>Scotland.</i>	<i>Ireland.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Total . . . . .	6,376,627	394,563	1,114,816	3,794,880	11,680,886
20 years of age . . .	3,199,984	194,705	549,821	1,867,765	5,812,276
Centesimal proportion of electors to male population, 20 years of age . . .	19.71	19.47	12.86	5.24	14.44
Total registered electors in 1832 . . . . .	619,213	37,124	64,447	92,152	812,936

In 1835-6 the number of registered electors had increased over the registration of 1834-5, in the English counties, 78,297, equal to 21 per cent; in Wales 5,102, equal to 19 per cent; in Scotland 5,208, equal to 14 per cent. The borough electors in England had increased 28,052, equal to 10 per cent.

Comparing 1834-5 with the first registration under the Reform Act, in 1832, it appears that the number of registered electors in the interval, in the United Kingdom, had increased 26,435, equal to  $3\frac{1}{4}$  per cent.

The county population in Britain was estimated, in 1832, at 10,446,241; borough population, 5,816,060. Members for counties, 189; members for boroughs, 364. So that the county population was two to one against the town, and the town representation two to one against the county.

In Ireland the case is different. The county representation exceeds the borough representation; but the county population is rated at 7,000,000, and the borough at little more than 700,000. Taking Britain and Ireland together, the population of cities and boroughs is about one-third of the population of counties, and the electors for counties are to the electors for towns about as four to three.

The above statements of the number of electors do not include the universities of

Oxford and Cambridge, Trinity College, Dublin, nor the Isle of Wight.

The number of individuals is less than the number of electors on the register. The same elector being occasionally inserted twice or oftener, in respect of different rights of voting for the county and borough, as freeholder, occupier, and burgess.

The number who actually vote in a general election is always less than the number registered. But no official return is made of the *voters*; the returning officers sending to the crown office only the names of the members elected, leaving to the newspapers to record the state of the poll, which is frequently incorrect.

The number of voters will also depend on the number of contested elections. The number of contests in 1835 was 225; in 1837, 244. The number of votes given in the former for sir R. Peel's parliament was estimated to amount to 595,000; in the latter, for viscount Melbourne's, to about 760,000.

According to calculations founded on the report of a parliamentary committee on election expenses, in 1834, it appears that 170 members for boroughs, being just one-half of those returned in England and Wales, are elected by 49,153 persons, being on the average 1 member for every 289 electors.

Of these, 32 places whose constituencies do not exceed 300, return 44 members.

23 places where the number of electors is between	300 and 400,	34	''
20 places where the electors are between	400 and 500,	31	''
13	500 and 600,	21	''
16	600 and 700,	24	''
10	700 and 800,	16	''

114 170

The borough included, which has the smallest number of registered votes, is Thetford, in the county of Norfolk. In that place 146 electors return 2 members.



There are only four other boroughs, the numbers of whose electors are under 200. These are Ashburton with 198, Reigate with 152, Calne with 191, and Westbury with 185 electors. These places return only one member each.

It can hardly be thought that the system of representation has been rendered too popular, when it is thus shown that

70 members—being more than one-fourth of the total number of representatives for the United Kingdom—are returned by 49,153 electors, a number forming no more than the 118th part of the males above twenty years of age. At the same time

that must be admitted to be a great improvement, which has transferred even to this comparatively small proportion of the people a franchise which was previously exercised by a very few individuals, belonging chiefly to the aristocracy.

The expenses of the revising barristers were, in 1834, 22,500*l.*; in 1835, 32,700*l.*; in 1836, 44,704*l.*

The following tables will show the increasing quantity of business that has come before the house of commons during the present century, the quantity of business discharged, and the duration of each session.

*Volumes of SESSIONAL PAPERS ordered to be printed.*

<i>Sess.</i>	<i>Vols.</i>	<i>Sess.</i>	<i>Vols.</i>	<i>Sess.</i>	<i>Vols.</i>	<i>Sess.</i>	<i>Vols.</i>
1801	7	1810	15	1819-20	4	1829	26
1801-2	7	1810-1	11	1820	12	1830	33
1802-3	10	1812	11	1821	23	1830-1	16
1803-4	11	1813	14	1822	22	1831	20
1805	11	1813-4	14	1823	19	1832	48
1806	19	1814-5	13	1824	24	1833	43
1806-7	9	1816	19	1825	27	1834	51
1807	5	1817	17	1826	29	1835	51
1808	15	1818	17	1827-8	26	1836	50
1809	12	1819	18	1828	27	1837	

The average of the first ten years is only 13 volumes; while the average of the last ten years is 36. The entire series of house of commons papers from 1701 to 1800 are contained in 15 volumes large

folio. (Hansard's *Letter to Sir R. H. Inglis, Sess. Paper 600—1832.*) So that the house now print more than three times as many papers in a year as they formerly did in a century.

*Number of PETITIONS presented.*

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Year.</i>	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Year.</i>	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Year.</i>	<i>Number.</i>
1785	298	1801	192	1811	132	1827	3,635
1786	156	1801-2	158	1812	340	1828	4,074
1787	98	1802-3	367	1812-3	1,699	1829	4,041
1787-8	201	1803-4	168	1813-4	1,479	1830	2,522
1788-9	127	1804-5	141	1814-5	848	1830-1	10,220
Sum	880		1,026		4,498		24,492
Average	176		205		899		4,896

From this table it will be seen that the ratio of increase in the public petitions presented within the last twenty-five years has been as 24 to 1, and since the close of the war as 6 to 1; that the number received in 1831 alone was nearly twice, and the number received during the fourth period nearly six times, as great as the number received during the whole of the three preceding periods taken together.

*Hours of Sitting.*—In 1606 an order was moved and settled for the meeting of the House at eight o'clock in the morning. In 1614, seven o'clock was made the hour of meeting; and all second readings of bills were directed to be proceeded with at eight o'clock. Ten years after this period, the time of meeting was fixed at half-past seven o'clock. In 1641, eight o'clock was appointed the hour for prayers, and all mem-

bers absent at prayers were liable to a fine of one shilling, and, if absent for a whole day, to a fine of five shillings. The hour from which the fine of one shilling should be exigible, was afterwards altered to nine o'clock. In those primitive times the House rose at noon; and so determined were the members to observe this rule, that any one who commenced a new motion after twelve o'clock was liable to a fine of five shillings. — *Mercurii*, 14 *Februarii*, 1643. The hour for commencing public business was, after the Revolution (*Nov.* 19, 1694), altered to ten o'clock; at a later period, ten o'clock was fixed as the hour of the House's meeting, and so nominally continued up to the meeting of the Reform Parliament, when new regulations (*see p.* 931) were adopted both as respects petitions and the hours of business.

Table showing the public and private business completed by the HOUSE OF COMMONS from 1806 to 1832 inclusive; with the times of meeting and proroguing, and the time occupied by each Session of the House.

Year.	Public Acts.	Private Acts.	SESSION		Sitting Days.	Sitting Hours.
			Commenced.	Terminated.		
1806	158	226	21 Jan.	23 July	125	645
1806—7	56	268	15 Dec.	27 April	86	434
1807	78	263	22 June	14 Aug.	45	272
1808	152	234	21 Jan.	4 July	111	829
1809	129	304	19 Jan.	21 June	97	746
1810	119	314	23 Jan.	21 June	97	802
1811	128	295	1 Nov.	24 July	135	588
1812	165	289	7 Jan.	30 July	137	856
1813	162	295	24 Nov.	22 July	136	776
1814	190	298	4 Nov.	30 July	127	476
1815	196	212	8 Nov.	12 July	119	654
1816	142	163	1 Feb.	2 July	91	667
1817	132	140	28 Jan.	12 July	100	587
1818	101	153	27 Jan.	10 June	84	483
1819	138	208	14 Jan.	13 July	118	774
1819—20	14	167	23 Nov.	28 Feb.	34	563
1820	119	167	21 April	23 Nov.	69	563
1821	123	187	23 Jan.	11 July	104	861½
1822	127	161	5 Feb.	6 Aug.	105	858
1823	100	167	4 Feb.	19 July	96	774½
1824	115	213	3 Feb.	25 June	86	622
1825	134	282	3 Feb.	6 July	91	687
1826	79	201	2 Feb.	31 May	64	457
1827	75	184	14 Nov.	2 July	106	645¾
1828	95	175	29 Jan.	28 July	111	777
1829	63	205	5 Feb.	24 June	79	540
1830	75	204	4 Feb.	23 July	105	856
1830—31	27	80	26 Oct.	22 April	90	640
1831	60	114	14 June	20 Oct.	98	918
1831—2	—	—	6 Dec.	16 Aug.	148	—

For the mass of business discharged, and the hours of sitting, during the first session of the reformed parliament, see

p. 937, and the business of subsequent years is enumerated in the *Chronicle* at the close of each parliamentary session.

#### ECCLESIASTICAL STATISTICS.

The subjoined tables of the amount and distribution of the revenues of the church of England, are abstracted from the reports of the ecclesiastical commissioners, especially the important report on ecclesiastical revenues, dated June 16, 1835. The returns of revenue were made on the average of the three years ending December 31, 1831. According to these returns, the gross annual revenues of the English church are 3,738,951*l.*; the net annual revenues, 3,439,767*l.* These revenues are thus distributed:—

Gross revenue. Net revenue.

Archbishops and bishops . . .	£181,631	£160,092
Dignitaries . . .	360,095	274,754
Rectors and vicars	3,197,225	3,004,721

#### Net yearly income of the Archbishops and Bishops.

Canterbury . . .	£19,182
York . . .	12,629
St. Asaph . . .	6,301
Bangor . . .	4,464
Bath and Wells . . .	5,946
Bristol . . .	2,351
Carlisle . . .	2,213
Chester . . .	3,261
Chichester . . .	4,229
St. David's . . .	1,897
Durham . . .	19,066
Ely . . .	11,105
Exeter . . .	2,713
Gloucester . . .	2,282
Hereford . . .	2,516
Lichfield and Coventry	3,923
Lincoln . . .	4,542
Llandaff . . .	924
London . . .	13,929



Norwich . . . .	£5,395
Oxford . . . .	2,648
Peterborough . . . .	3,103
Rochester . . . .	1,459
Salisbury . . . .	3,939
Winchester . . . .	11,151
Worcester . . . .	6,569
Sodor and Man . . . .	2,555

Average amount of episcopal income, if equally divided, 5936*l*. The commissioners, in their report dated March 7, 1835, recommend various alterations of the boundaries of the dioceses, the union of the sees of Llandaff and Bristol, and those of St. Asaph and Bangor, and the erection of two new sees in the province of York, one at Manchester, the other at Ripon. Speaking of the incomes of the sees, they say,—“We are of opinion that where the annual income of a bishop amounts to 4500*l*. it is not necessary to make any addition; nor would we recommend any diminution unless it exceeded 5500*l*. But we think that the two archbishoprics, and the bishops of London, Durham, and Winchester, ought to have a larger provision than the rest.” Accordingly in a subsequent Report, dated May 20, 1836, the commissioners fixed the average incomes of these dioceses as follows:—Canterbury, 15,000*l*.; York, 10,000*l*.; London, 10,000*l*.; Durham, 8000*l*.; Winchester, 9000*l*. Agreeably with these suggestions, the established church bill of 1836, the 6 & 7 Wm. 4, c. 77, fixing the future incomes of the prelates, was passed.

*Net yearly income of the CATHEDRAL AND COLLEGIATE FOUNDATIONS, divisible by the Chapters, and the number of persons, DEAN, CANONS, or PREBENDARIES, among whom it is divided.*

Foundation.	Persons.	Revenue.
St. Asaph . . . .	13	£382
Bristol . . . .	7	3,022
Canterbury . . . .	13	14,377
Carlisle . . . .	5	4,809
Chester . . . .	7	634
Chichester . . . .	5	3,721
St. David's . . . .	6	1,176
Durham . . . .	13	20,899
Ely . . . .	9	6,069
Exeter . . . .	9	5,963
Gloucester . . . .	7	3,440
Hereford . . . .	6	3,247
Lichfield . . . .	7	1,183
Lincoln . . . .	4	6,959
Llandaff . . . .	13	533
Norwich . . . .	7	4,992
Oxford . . . .	9	15,700
St. Paul's . . . .	4	9,048
Peterborough . . . .	7	3,918
Rochester . . . .	7	4,809
Salisbury . . . .	7	2,799

Foundation.	Persons.	Revenue.
Wells . . . .	7	£6,445
Winchester . . . .	13	10,635
Worcester . . . .	11	8,698
York . . . .	5	1,650
Manchester . . . .	5	3,981
Middleham . . . .	2	455
Ripon . . . .	10	265
Southwell . . . .	16	954
Westminster . . . .	15	19,543
Windsor . . . .	13	17,819
Wolverhampton . . . .	1	641

From the above it appears there are thirty-two cathedral and collegiate foundations, whose net divisible revenues amount to 184,123*l*., and that the number of persons among whom this aggregate revenue is divided is 261; making the annual average share of each 705*l*. There are also 10 minor incorporations of canons, who have an aggregate revenue of 4754*l*., divisible among 69 persons, making the average share of each 68*l*.

In addition to the aggregate revenues above of the chapters, there are *separate revenues* of the several prebends, and other ecclesiastical preferments in cathedrals and collegiate churches, the net yearly income of which is 44,705*l*.

The total amount of FINES received on renewals of leases during the three years ending 1831, in addition to the average net yearly income, was 65,280*l*.

The cathedral chapters are of two kinds: first, the deans and chapters of the *old* foundation; secondly, those of the *new* foundation. The former class comprehends all those cathedral establishments which were founded at different periods before the reign of Henry VIII.; the latter, those which were founded by letters-patent from the crown, confirmed by parliament about the time of the Reformation. The *old* foundations comprise not only the dean and canons-residentiary, who compose the chapters of each, but various other prebendaries, who are not required to keep any residence at the cathedral, nor to perform any other duty except that of preaching one or two sermons in each year. The prebendaries who are not residentiaries have no share of the corporate revenues, except, in some cases, small fixed payments, but in most instances possess each a separate endowment. In the chapters on the *new* foundation, on the contrary, there are no prebendaries besides the residentiaries, and except at Durham and Ely they have no separate estates. The dean, independently of statutory allowances, mostly double those of the prebendaries, receives, on the division of the fines, a twofold share.

*Net annual income of BENEFICES and CURATES' AVERAGE STIPENDS.*

Dioceses.	Benefices.	Total Income.	Average.	Curates.	Stipends.
St. Asaph . . . . .	143	£38,840	£271	43	£82
Bangor . . . . .	123	31,061	252	61	80
Bath and Wells . . . . .	430	109,397	256	231	80
Bristol . . . . .	253	71,397	232	133	80
Canterbury . . . . .	346	110,050	318	174	84
Carlisle . . . . .	124	21,777	175	44	83
Chester . . . . .	630	159,372	252	267	87
Chichester . . . . .	267	75,522	282	122	77
St. David's . . . . .	409	56,317	137	207	55
Durham . . . . .	192	67,639	352	98	87
Ely . . . . .	150	53,000	353	75	87
Exeter . . . . .	613	174,275	284	323	89
Gloucester . . . . .	283	77,429	273	143	79
Hereford . . . . .	321	87,987	274	157	82
Lichfield and Coventry . . . . .	610	159,073	260	307	81
Lincoln . . . . .	1,251	358,073	286	629	77
Llandaff . . . . .	192	34,077	177	113	59
London . . . . .	640	255,429	399	351	100
Norwich . . . . .	1,026	321,823	313	523	73
Oxford . . . . .	196	49,088	250	103	77
Peterborough . . . . .	293	93,650	319	139	81
Rochester . . . . .	94	39,007	414	60	109
Salisbury . . . . .	398	127,459	320	223	81
Winchester . . . . .	419	143,614	342	202	98
Worcester . . . . .	223	69,655	312	111	81
York . . . . .	891	216,005	242	390	75
Sodor and Man . . . . .	23	3,623	157	3	70
	10,540	£3,004,639	£285	5,232	£81

179 benefices were not returned to the commissioners, but the value of them has been included in the average estimate, calculated upon the average of those returned.

The total number of benefices in England and Wales, including those not returned, but exclusive of those annexed to other preferments (24 in number) is 10,718.

If the amount of the curates' stipends, which is included in the income of the in-

cumbents, be abstracted therefrom, the aggregate net income of incumbents, or rather of benefices (for, many of the incumbents being pluralists, the number of *individuals* is considerably less than that of *benefices*), will be reduced to 2,579,961*l.*, giving an average of 244*l.* to each.

The two most valuable livings are the rectory of Stanhope, in Northumberland, 4843*l.*; and the rectory of Doddington, in Cambridgeshire, 7306*l.* per annum.

*Patronage of Benefices.*

Dioceses.	Crown.	Bishops.	Chap- ters.	Digni- taries.	Univer- sities.	Private Owners.	Corpo- rations.
St. Asaph . . . . .	2	120	..	2	1	19	—
Bangor . . . . .	6	78	1	7	3	29	—
Bath and Wells . . . . .	21	29	39	103	23	224	4
Bristol . . . . .	12	15	11	42	14	159	10
Canterbury . . . . .	18	148	36	36	14	87	2
Carlisle . . . . .	4	20	27	19	3	54	..
Chester . . . . .	26	34	34	227	13	299	6
Chichester . . . . .	19	31	21	49	15	130	..
St. David's . . . . .	63	102	16	61	12	159	..
Durham . . . . .	12	45	36	28	4	66	..
Ely . . . . .	2	31	21	13	46	39	..
Exeter . . . . .	63	44	69	117	11	309	5
Gloucester . . . . .	29	30	35	40	26	133	3
Carried forward	277	727	346	744	185	1707	30



Dioceses.	Crown.	Bishops.	Chap- ters.	Digni- taries.	Univer- sities.	Private Owners.	Corpo- rations.
Brought forward	277	727	346	744	185	1707	30
Hereford	26	36	26	54	11	179	..
Lichfield and Coventry	53	18	10	122	6	391	5
Lincoln	156	73	63	177	102	688	..
Llandaff.	14	6	23	19	7	118	..
London	75	86	58	105	68	277	..
Norwich	95	85	47	124	86	596	13
Oxford	12	13	22	16	59	78	..
Peterborough	31	18	12	40	32	171	..
Rochester	10	15	17	8	4	44	..
Salisbury	35	39	44	67	60	154	..
Winchester	30	53	15	79	53	197	..
Worcester	20	14	38	39	15	98	..
York	103	57	61	257	33	397	5
Sodor and Man	15	8	..	..	..	1	..
Total	952	1,248	787	1,851	721	5,096	53

The above classification comprises only the patronage returned to the Commissioners. There are 178 non-returns, and 86 returned, omitting the patronage.

As the patronage is frequently divided

between different classes of patrons, and is included under each, it is obvious that the aggregate total of the above numbers will not agree with the total number of benefices.

#### Appropriations and Improvements.

Dioceses.	Crown.	Bishops.	Chap- ters.	Digni- taries.	Univer- sities.	Private Owners.	Corpo- rations.
St. Asaph	..	12	10	8	..	27	..
Bangor	..	11	7	7	..	29	..
Bath and Wells.	1	9	27	36	..	105	4
Bristol	..	1	16	11	2	48	2
Canterbury	..	48	46	12	8	49	1
Carlisle	..	8	30	3	2	28	..
Chester	2	21	28	5	15	113	..
Chichester	..	7	11	19	5	67	..
St. David's	1	18	20	49	4	124	2
Durham	1	7	28	7	13	61	1
Ely	..	10	26	..	19	27	..
Exeter	2	5	61	23	4	156	7
Gloucester	2	14	32	2	3	54	1
Hereford	..	20	25	11	12	89	..
Lichfield and Coventry	1	8	20	49	5	249	4
Lincoln	3	39	48	36	31	347	3
Llandaff	1	10	30	9	4	45	2
London	1	13	26	16	16	144	1
Norwich	1	47	48	2	22	197	9
Oxford	..	7	18	5	27	36	..
Peterborough	..	8	10	1	6	65	..
Rochester	1	3	13	1	4	21	..
Salisbury	1	6	37	23	21	93	2
Winchester	..	3	8	16	29	78	..
Worcester	5	4	25	8	3	43	3
York	7	40	52	79	26	265	1
Sodor and Man	8	6	..	..	..	1	..
Total	38	385	702	438	281	2,552	43

An *appropriation* is when the tithes of a benefice, instead of being in the hands of the parson, are appropriated to a bishopric, prebend, college, or other spiritual corporation; if in the hands of a layman, it becomes an *improvement*.

121 vicarages are partly, and 132 wholly, endowed with the great tithes.

The number of vicarages of which the improvements have not been returned to the commissioners is 223.

## CHURCH OF IRELAND.

The following summary is taken from the appendix to the first report of the commissioners of public instruction for Ireland.

The total population of Ireland in 1834 was 7,954,100; of which 6,436,060 were Roman catholics, 853,160 members of the established church, 643,058 presbyterians, and 21,882 belonged to other religious denominations. It results from this statement that the proportion per cent. of each denomination to the total population is as follows:—Roman catholics,  $80\frac{91.5}{1000}$ ; members of the established church,  $10\frac{72.6}{1000}$ ; presbyterians,  $8\frac{8.4}{1000}$ ; other protestant dissenters,  $\frac{27.5}{1000}$ .

The number of places of worship in Ireland is 4502; of which 2109 belong to Roman catholics, 1537 to the established church, 452 to the presbyterians, and 404 to various other sects.

The total number of parishes or ecclesiastical districts is 2408, and of this number 2351 possess a provision for the cure of souls, and 57, containing 3030 members of the established church, are without any such provision.

The total number of benefices is 1387, viz., 908 consisting of single parishes, and 479 being unions of two or more parishes. In 87 of these unions the parishes are not contiguous. A glebe-house is attached to 851 benefices; to the other 536 no glebe-house is attached.

The number of benefices in which there is more than one church is 118; in which

there is only one church, 1059; in which there is no church, 210.

The incumbent is resident on 890 benefices; in 340 the incumbent is non-resident, but divine service is performed by him or a curate in a place of worship; and there are 157 benefices in which the incumbent is non-resident, and no divine service is performed.

In five benefices the population is not more than 100; in 7, is between 100 and 200; in 36, between 200 and 500; in 94, between 500 and 1000; in 368, between 1000 and 3000; in 278, between 3000 and 5000; in 406, between 5000 and 10,000; in 125, between 10,000 and 15,000; in 39, between 15,000 and 20,000; in 21 between 20,000 and 30,000; and in 8 the population exceeds 30,000.

In 41 benefices there is not a single member of the established church; in 99, the number is under 20; in 124, there are more than 20, and not more than 50; in 161, there are between 50 and 100; in 224, between 100 and 200; in 286, between 200 and 500; in 210, between 500 and 1000; in 139, between 1000 and 2000; in 91, between 2000 and 5000; and there are 12 benefices in which the number of members belonging to the established church exceeds 5000.

In the Irish tithe bill, introduced by Lord Morpeth, June 3rd, 1836, it was proposed to reduce the 1387 benefices of Ireland to 1250, with an average net income of 294*l*. Under this arrangement the ecclesiastical establishment of the United Kingdom would have been as under:—

	Benefices.	Of income.	Population.	Acres.	Square Miles.
England and Wales . . . .	10,718	£285	1,014	3,460	5
Scotland . . . . .	900	240	2,770	21,048	32
Presbyterians of Ulster . . .	200	155	2,500	15,903	40
Established Church in Ireland .	1,250	294	681	10,000	13 to 14

**Education.**—The number of schools in Ireland, in connexion with the National Board, is 892; in connexion with the Association for discountenancing vice, 203; Erasmus Smith's fund, 115; Kildare-street society, 235; London Hibernian society, 618; other schools, 771. The proportion of daily schools to the population is, therefore, as 1 to 824. In the ecclesiastical province of Armagh it is as 1 to 698; province of Dublin, 1 to 774; province of Cashel, 1 to 1008; province of Tuam, 1 to 994.

The total number of children receiving daily instruction is 633,946. The proportion per cent. to the population is, therefore,  $7\frac{33}{100}$ ; to the population of the province of Armagh,  $8\frac{84}{100}$ ; province of Dublin,  $7\frac{57}{100}$ ; Cashel,  $5\frac{93}{100}$ ; Tuam,  $6\frac{13}{100}$ .

## DISSENTERS IN ENGLAND AND WALES.

The following statement is not derived from official sources. It is the result of inquiries instituted by the dissenters into the number of established and non-established places of worship in England and Wales, and the details from which the table was drawn up were first published in a supplement to the *Congregational Magazine* for December 1829. In the absence of a more authorized document, it is probably the best and latest account extant of the distribution of religious denominations, and will conclude the subject of the Ecclesiastical Statistics of the United Kingdom



*Statement of the number of DISSENTING CHAPELS and CHURCH LIVINGS  
in England and Wales.*

COUNTIES.	Roman Catholics.	Presbyterians.	Independents.	Particular Baptists.	General Baptists.	Quakers.	Wesleyan Methodists.	Calvinistic Methodists.	Other Methodists.	Missionary Stations.	Total Dissenting Congregations.	Church Livings.
Bedfordshire . . .	1	—	8	21	—	4	35	—	1	1	71	115
Berkshire . . .	6	1	14	11	1	6	34	7	—	1	81	150
Buckinghamshire . . .	1	—	21	28	—	8	25	1	—	37	121	190
Cambridgeshire . . .	1	1	23	19	6	3	29	1	1	1	85	162
Cheshire . . .	7	12	27	5	9	6	48	8	30	1	153	145
Cornwall . . .	2	—	31	12	—	10	219	3	39	4	320	187
Cumberland . . .	4	10	16	8	—	22	32	—	11	2	105	139
Derbyshire . . .	8	7	36	5	11	5	84	3	22	1	182	161
Devonshire . . .	9	15	65	31	—	6	93	—	18	10	247	442
Dorsetshire . . .	7	3	22	5	—	5	21	—	22	3	88	248
Durham . . .	14	7	13	8	—	7	72	—	28	28	177	91
Essex . . .	7	2	64	24	—	20	36	1	—	21	175	413
Gloucestershire . . .	5	4	38	27	—	13	53	11	7	19	177	290
Hampshire . . .	11	4	49	22	1	5	27	6	—	3	128	258
Herefordshire . . .	4	—	11	9	—	4	16	1	—	4	49	201
Hertfordshire . . .	1	1	28	13	1	12	2	4	—	—	62	129
Huntingdonshire . . .	—	1	9	12	1	3	9	1	—	—	36	74
Kent . . .	8	4	44	30	4	9	90	15	—	6	210	395
Lancashire . . .	81	36	88	29	5	25	156	9	76	—	504	287
Leicestershire . . .	7	3	17	13	17	4	68	—	13	2	144	208
Lincolnshire . . .	12	2	18	14	11	9	211	2	24	1	304	598
London and Middlesex . . .	21	15	91	55	2	12	59	22	7	5	289	233
Monmouthshire . . .	4	—	24	28	—	3	10	—	—	3	72	118
Norfolk . . .	8	1	21	32	2	13	74	1	24	5	181	683
Northamptonshire . . .	3	1	35	40	4	7	61	—	—	2	153	303
Northumberland . . .	19	50	8	3	1	4	29	—	22	—	136	97
Nottinghamshire . . .	3	3	12	7	6	3	77	—	41	—	152	178
Oxfordshire . . .	8	3	14	12	—	10	44	—	2	6	99	203
Rutland . . .	—	—	3	1	1	1	7	—	—	—	13	40
Shropshire . . .	7	2	25	15	—	3	32	—	18	—	102	209
Somersetshire . . .	8	7	47	37	—	17	94	3	20	21	254	456
Staffordshire . . .	21	5	32	16	3	6	82	—	41	7	213	178
Suffolk . . .	4	2	33	35	2	10	40	1	—	5	132	486
Surrey . . .	4	1	27	21	—	10	—	11	—	27	101	142
Sussex . . .	6	4	31	13	—	5	20	6	—	2	87	300
Warwickshire . . .	11	5	30	16	7	12	18	2	2	5	108	209
Westmoreland . . .	2	1	12	—	—	11	13	—	1	1	41	68
Wiltshire . . .	3	1	38	31	3	3	37	1	8	4	129	274
Worcestershire . . .	8	8	10	22	—	7	24	3	21	1	104	175
Yorkshire . . .	46	13	154	51	9	64	532	1	147	2	1019	809
North Wales . . .	6	23	172	52	—	3	214	300	6	—	1100	299
South Wales . . .	—	—	202	107	—	5	—	—	9	—	—	526

## JUDICIAL ESTABLISHMENTS.

The total expenses on account of the judicial establishments of the United Kingdom amounted to 1,022,751*l.* for the year ended 5th January, 1836; and the following is a detail of the cost of each department:—

<i>England.</i> —Courts of justice, namely:— £	
Vice-chancellor . . . . .	6,000
Master of the rolls . . . . .	3,546
Chief and puisne judges,	
"    "    king's bench . . . . .	28,500
"    "    common pleas . . . . .	29,500
"    "    exchequer . . . . .	27,243
Clerk of the hanaper . . . . .	3,000
Insolvent debtors' court . . . . .	12,307
Compensation allowances for loss of fees and emoluments . . . . .	69,670
	<hr/> £179,766

<i>Scotland.</i> —Paid out of the gross revenue for the judicial esta- blishments . . . . .	<hr/> £84,192
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<i>Ireland.</i> —Courts of justice:—	
Lord chancellor . . . . .	7,195
Master of the rolls . . . . .	3,969
Masters in ordinary and others, court of chancery . . . . .	16,612
Judges of the court of	
"    "    king's bench . . . . .	27,373
"    "    common pleas . . . . .	25,443
"    "    exchequer . . . . .	34,059
Judge of the prerogative court . . . . .	3,000
"    "    admiralty . . . . .	500
Clerk, court of errors . . . . .	277
Commissioners, court of appeals . . . . .	2,215
Insolvent debtors' court . . . . .	8,222
Taxing officers . . . . .	2,416
Registrars to the judges . . . . .	5,446
Judges attending adjourned assizes . . . . .	923
Lodging money to judges . . . . .	1,252
	<hr/> £138,902

<i>England.</i> —Police and criminal prosecutions . . . . .	
	<hr/> £402,860
Eight police offices . . . . .	52,300
Metropolitan police . . . . .	57,348
Mint prosecutions . . . . .	8,000
Law charges . . . . .	14,000
Sheriffs' convictions . . . . .	7,713
<i>Scotland.</i> —Criminal prosecutions . . . . .	13,000
<i>Ireland.</i> —Barristers of counties . . . . .	14,486
Criminal prosecutions . . . . .	63,758
Police and watch, Dublin . . . . .	17,000
	<hr/> £247,605

<i>England.</i> —Correction:—	
Convicts at home and abroad . . . . .	£ 57,194
Bills drawn from New South Wales . . . . .	170,157
Penitentiary House . . . . .	16,362
Criminal lunatics . . . . .	2,629
Commissioners to prevent traf- fic in slaves . . . . .	16,200
Bills drawn on account of cap- tured negroes . . . . .	24,000
<i>Ireland.</i> —Officers of prisons . . . . .	4,144
Expense of removing convicts . . . . .	2,052
Salary of process-servers . . . . .	8,052
Transportation of felons . . . . .	8,916
<i>Scotland.</i> —Salaries to sheriffs and other expenses . . . . .	62,580
	<hr/> £372,286

The total expenditure on account of judicial establishments for the year ending Jan. 5th, 1837, was 1,010,184*l.*

## Magistrates and Jurors.

Return of MAGISTRATES in England and Wales, appointed by the lord chancellor; distinguishing clergy and laymen: also the number of persons qualified and liable to serve on JURIES in each county, under 6 Geo. 4, c. 50, in the year ending Dec. 31, 1835.

<i>Counties.</i>	<i>Clergy.</i>	<i>Lay.</i>	<i>Jurors.</i>
Bedford . . . . .	19	27	1,469
Berks . . . . .	28	95	1,739
Bucks . . . . .	54	90	2,482
Cambridge . . . . .	23	28	1,430
Chester . . . . .	16	58	3,660
Cornwall . . . . .	36	54	3,747
Cumberland . . . . .	15	39	2,810
Derby . . . . .	..	79	3,209
Devon . . . . .	42	144	6,915
Dorset . . . . .	25	43	2,537
Durham . . . . .	23	59	2,771
Essex . . . . .	51	119	4,805
Gloucester . . . . .	49	127	6,316
Hants . . . . .	19	131	3,892
Hereford . . . . .	58	97	2,384
Hertford . . . . .	44	102	1,731
Huntingdon . . . . .	7	18	897
Kent . . . . .	2	145	6,146
Lancaster . . . . .	24	151	17,690
Leicester . . . . .	17	27	2,691
Lincoln . . . . .	52	59	6,781
Middlesex . . . . .	16	153	28,584
Monmouth . . . . .	13	44	1,694
Norfolk . . . . .	78	119	5,178
Northampton . . . . .	35	49	2,984
Northumberland . . . . .	6	40	1,549
Nottingham . . . . .	10	44	2,689
Oxford . . . . .	18	53	2,429
Rutland . . . . .	3	6	272

Carried forward 794 2240 125,485



<i>Counties.</i>	<i>Clergy.</i>	<i>Lay.</i>	<i>Jurors.</i>
Brought forward	794	2240	125,485
Salop . . . . .	88	106	2,886
Somerset . . . . .	53	97	7,575
Stafford . . . . .	16	70	6,092
Suffolk . . . . .	58	98	4,533
Surrey . . . . .	39	215	11,042
Sussex . . . . .	..	189	4,969
Warwick . . . . .	24	42	5,700
Westmoreland . . . . .	15	18	1,216
Wilts . . . . .	18	71	3,882
Worcester . . . . .	44	92	3,854
York . . . . .	103	311	14,615
Anglesea . . . . .	7	14	765
Brecon . . . . .	24	37	1,044
Cardigan . . . . .	11	53	1,051
Carried forward	1294	3633	173,709

<i>Counties.</i>	<i>Clergy.</i>	<i>Lay.</i>	<i>Jurors.</i>
Brought forward	1294	3633	173,709
Carmarthen . . . . .	9	75	1,365
Carnarvon . . . . .	14	17	996
Denbigh . . . . .	24	41	1,613
Flint . . . . .	15	26	1,027
Glamorgan . . . . .	18	36	2,048
Merioneth . . . . .	9	14	619
Montgomery . . . . .	13	31	1,864
Pembroke . . . . .	10	35	1,296
Radnor . . . . .	4	29	795
Total . . . . .	1324	4017	213,336

The return of county magistrates is for about the year 1830. The number of persons qualified to serve on juries is doubtless much greater, the returns being carelessly made and collected.

## EAST INDIA COMPANY.

Statement of the annual revenues and charges of INDIA; also the interest of the DEBT.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Gross Revenue.</i>	<i>Interest on Debts.</i>	<i>Total Charges.</i>	<i>Expense of St. Helena.</i>	<i>Net surplus Revenue.</i>	<i>Surplus Charge.</i>
1810	£16,547,654	£2,159,019	£16,137,399	£83,821	£326,434	. .
1811	16,774,257	2,196,691	16,310,176	81,220	381,861	. .
1812	16,689,039	1,457,077	14,847,901	81,854	1,759,284	. .
1813	16,523,779	1,491,870	15,333,361	82,292	1,107,126	. .
1814	17,299,255	1,537,434	15,340,396	95,254	1,863,595	. .
1815	17,297,279	1,502,217	15,862,919	92,087	1,342,273	. .
1816	17,232,818	1,584,157	16,858,220	201,748	172,850	. .
1817	18,077,577	1,719,470	17,024,418	279,744	773,415	. .
1818	18,375,820	1,753,018	17,740,625	255,569	329,626	. .
1819	19,459,017	1,665,928	19,404,077	294,092	. .	£239,152
1820	19,230,462	1,940,327	19,183,475	169,278	. .	122,291
1821	21,352,241	1,902,585	19,605,740	274,565	1,471,936	. .
1822	21,803,108	1,932,835	19,648,451	208,038	1,946,619	. .
1823	23,171,701	1,694,731	19,963,648	120,093	3,087,960	. .
1824	21,280,384	1,652,449	20,741,729	112,268	426,387	. .
1825	20,750,183	1,460,433	22,086,221	109,439	. .	1,445,687
1826	21,128,388	1,575,941	24,057,600	110,413	. .	3,039,625
1827	23,383,497	1,749,068	23,323,179	114,500	. .	54,182
1828	22,863,263	1,958,313	23,933,266	120,571	. .	1,190,474
1829	22,740,691	2,121,165	21,605,507	113,054	1,022,130	. .
1830	21,695,207	2,007,693	20,461,605	93,004	1,140,598	. .

Estimated territorial revenue and charges of INDIA for the year 1829-30.

<i>Revenues.</i>	<i>Charges.</i>
Mints . . . . .	Civil charges . . . . .
Post-office . . . . .	Provincial battalions . . . . .
Stamps . . . . .	Mints . . . . .
Judicial . . . . .	Post-office . . . . .
Land-tax . . . . .	Stamps . . . . .
Customs . . . . .	Judicial . . . . .
Ceded territory . . . . .	Land-tax . . . . .
Burmese cessions . . . . .	Customs . . . . .
Salt . . . . .	Ceded territory . . . . .
Opium . . . . .	Burmese . . . . .
Marine . . . . .	Salt . . . . .
Ava indemnification . . . . .	Opium . . . . .
Bhurutpore . . . . .	Marine . . . . .
Subsidies . . . . .	Claims on Carnatic . . . . .
Bank profits . . . . .	Buildings and repairs . . . . .
	Military . . . . .
Carried forward . . . . .	Carried forward . . . . .

£36,483  
132,565  
424,692  
114,670  
14,314,660  
1,837,127  
569,676  
103,240  
2,421,619  
1,757,400  
61,769  
92,220  
34,800  
392,355  
8,640

£1,781,171  
132,124  
80,763  
128,947  
105,674  
1,694,908  
3,323,925  
196,916  
145,696  
41,760  
607,691  
666,420  
339,410  
24,000  
516,201  
9,103,091

£18,888,702

Brought forward . . .	£22,301,916
Deduct for land-tax . . .	247,500
<b>Total . . .</b>	<b>£22,054,416</b>

Brought forward . . .	£18,888,702
Interest on debts . . .	2,139,117
	<hr/> 21,027,819
Expenses of St. Helena . . .	93,004
Charges paid in England . . .	1,742,162
	<hr/> 22,862,985
Total of charges . . .	22,862,985
Deduct revenues . . .	22,054,416
	<hr/>
Estimated surplus charge	
1829-30 . . .	£808,569

An account of the exports and imports between Great Britain and all places eastward of the Cape of Good Hope (except China); distinguishing the PRIVATE TRADE from that of the East India Company:—

Years.	EXPORTS.			IMPORTS.		
	By the E. I. Company. £.	Private Trade. £.	Total Exports. £.	By the E. I. Company. £.	Private Trade. £.	Total Imports. £.
1814	826,558	1,048,132	1,874,690	4,208,079	4,435,196	8,643,275
1815	996,248	1,569,513	2,555,761	3,016,556	5,119,611	8,136,167
1816	633,546	1,955,909	2,589,455	2,027,703	4,402,082	6,429,785
1817	638,382	2,750,333	3,386,715	2,323,630	4,541,956	6,865,586
1818	553,385	3,018,779	3,572,164	2,305,003	6,901,144	9,206,147
1819	760,508	1,586,075	2,347,083	193,240	4,683,367	6,615,768
1820	971,096	2,066,815	3,037,911	1,757,137	4,201,389	5,958,526
1821	887,619	2,656,776	3,544,395	1,743,733	3,031,413	4,775,146
1822	606,089	2,838,354	3,444,443	1,092,327	2,621,334	3,713,663
1823	458,550	2,957,705	3,416,255	1,587,078	4,334,973	5,932,013
1824	654,783	2,841,795	3,496,578	1,194,733	4,410,347	5,605,100
1825	598,553	2,574,660	3,173,213	1,462,692	4,716,083	6,178,775
1826	990,965	2,480,588	3,471,552	1,520,060	5,210,866	6,730,926
1827	805,610	3,830,580	4,636,190	1,612,480	4,068,537	5,681,017
1828	488,601	3,979,072	4,467,673	1,930,107	5,135,073	7,065,180
1829	434,586	3,665,678	4,100,264	1,593,442	4,624,842	6,218,284
1830	195,394	3,891,917	4,087,311	1,593,566	4,085,505	5,679,071

Commerce with India was nearly stationary from 1805 to 1814; the partial opening of the trade to individual enterprise in the latter year gave an impulse to exports, particularly since 1826; so that, contrasting the amount of commerce in 1814 with 1835, there had been an increase of 133 per cent. The opening of the trade with China gave a farther impulse to mercantile intercourse with the East. This trade was thrown open on the expiration of the charter of the East India Company in April 1834. Since that time the declared value of English manufactures ex-

ported to China has increased from 842,852*l.* in 1834, to 1,074,708*l.* in 1835, and to 1,326,368*l.* in 1836.

During the last seven years of the company's exclusive privilege, the importation of raw silk from China averaged 77,136*lbs.* per annum; in 1834 the quantity imported rose to 582,834*lbs.* In the article of Tea the increase was 11,449,533*lbs.* in the imports. The returns on the next page is a comparative statement of the importation of tea, before and subsequent to the opening of the trade:—



Comparative Statement of the Quantities of Tea imported into the United Kingdom in the Season 1833-4, being the last year of the East India Company's Monopoly, and the Season 1834-5, being the first year of Open Trade.

<i>Description.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>London.</i>	<i>Liverpool.</i>	<i>Bristol.</i>	<i>Leith.</i>	<i>Glasgow.</i>	<i>Dublin.</i>	<i>Total Import in the Season 1833-4.</i>	<i>Total Import in the Season 1834-5.</i>
Fokien Bohea	.	3,007,655	619,499	45,704	110,451	.	107,698	4,398,120	3,891,002
Canton Bohea	.	5,791,977	887,495	119,382	92,984	72,002	150,114	3,763,922	7,113,954
Congou	.	14,760,304	2,700,752	795,746	327,283	249,533	566,572	15,233,012	19,400,190
Caper	.	349,467	131,859	.	11,951	18,649	4,859	344,240	516,785
Ankoi	.	66,055	19,175	.	.	.	.	.	85,230
Souchong	.	582,858	97,438	113,341	3,940	11,032	.	439,827	808,609
Orange Pekoe	.	801,793	111,633	.	27,186	.	13,134	257,787	953,746
Campoi	.	744,005	168,531	20,619	788	78,668	.	.	1,012,611
Pekoe	.	377,846	52,139	24,428	6,304	11,557	.	199,916	472,274
Twankay	.	3,310,949	337,526	20,882	14,053	16,851	3,283	3,898,563	3,703,544
Hyson	.	1,382,422	178,740	96,005	6,435	21,276	3,283	887,444	1,688,161
Hyson Skin	.	299,810	10,769	.	1,051	6,576	.	104,990	318,206
Young Hyson	.	403,751	26,792	2,283	657	.	.	.	433,483
Gunpowder	.	305,832	13,002	14,972	3,415	9,325	263	32,046	346,809
Imperial	.	166,714	15,235	21,276	.	8,688	.	.	211,893
Presents, &c.	.	85,346	.	.	.	.	.	32,448	85,346
Total	.	32,436,784	5,370,585	1,274,638	606,498	504,137	849,201	29,592,310	41,041,843

Two or three ships of the season 1834-5, which had not arrived, are excluded from this account. Their cargoes were estimated to amount to two millions of pounds. But as the imports of 1833-4 were about 1,500,000 pounds short of the average of preceding years, the imports of the first year of free-trade may be considered to have been twelve millions of pounds greater than the annual shipments under the East India Company's Monopoly.

## COLONIAL STATISTICS.

RETURN from each COLONY or FOREIGN POSSESSION of the British Crown: stating the year in which it was captured, ceded by treaty, or settled; the number of the POPULATION, distinguishing white from coloured, and free from slaves; also the value of EXPORTS and IMPORTS into each of those colonies.

Those with a \* affixed have a Legislative Assembly; those without are governed by the orders of the king in council. T. denotes ceded by treaty; c. captured; s. settled by the British power.

YEAR.	COLONIES.	POPULATION 1829, OR LATEST CENSUS.				Trade with Great Britain, in 1829.			
						Imports into the United Kingdom. Official Value.	Exports from the United Kingdom. Official Value.	Num. and Tons of Vessels to and from the United Kingdom and the Colonies.	
								Ina.	Outs.
	NORTH AMERICA.				Total.			Ships.	Ships.
1759 c.	*Lower Canada . . . .	. . . .	423,630 . . . .	. . . .	. . . .	569,451	1,117,421	778	760
1763 t.	*Upper Canada . . . .	. . . .	188,558 . . . .	. . . .	. . . .	213,842	274,922	562	460
	*New Brunswick . . . .	. . . .	72,932 . . . .	. . . .	. . . .	61,701	297,966	121	126
	*Nova Scotia . . . .	. . . .	142,548 . . . .	. . . .	. . . .				
1497 s.	*Cape Breton . . . .	. . . .	23,473 . . . .	. . . .	. . . .	243,628	373,817	148	306
	Prince Edward's Island . . . .	. . . .	60,088 . . . .	. . . .	. . . .				
	Newfoundland . . . .	. . . .			911,229				
	Totals				911,229	1,088,622	2,064,126	1,609	1,652
	WEST INDIES.								
1632 s.	*Antigua . . . .	1,980	3,895	29,839	35,714	285,500	146,657	46	43
1605 s.	*Barbadoes . . . .	14,959	5,146	81,902	102,007	489,214	369,828	65	82
1763 t.	*Dominica . . . .	840	3,606	15,392	19,838	141,911	27,478	12	11
1763 t.	*Grenada . . . .	801	3,786	24,145	28,732	359,813	93,015	41	37
1665 c.	*Jamaica . . . .	No census	taken.	322,421	322,421	3,741,179	2,761,463	286	270
1632 s.	*Montserrat . . . .	330	814	6,262	7,406	40,958	8,302	5	4
1628 s.	*Nevis . . . .	700	2,000	9,259	11,959	78,278	25,223	8	8
1623 s.	*St. Kitts . . . .	1,612	3,000	19,340	23,922	192,280	97,234	24	26
1803 c.	*St. Lucia . . . .	972	3,718	13,661	18,351	157,533	51,505	22	19
1763 t.	*St. Vincent . . . .	1,301	2,824	23,589	27,714	414,548	99,891	53	42
1763 t.	*Tobago . . . .	322	1,164	12,556	14,042	158,385	51,368	26	29
1666 s.	*Tortola . . . .	477	1,296	5,399	7,172	33,243	5,666	5	3
1666 s.	*Anguilla . . . .	365	327	2,388	3,080				
1797 c.	*Trinidad . . . .	4,201	15,956	24,006	44,163	694,001	361,077	94	82
1629 s.	*Bahamas . . . .	4,240	2,991	9,268	16,499	17,915	51,524	7	7
1609 s.	*Bermudas . . . .	3,905	738	4,608	9,251	4,901	24,817	3	9
	Demerara and Essequibo . . . .	3,006	6,360	69,467	78,833	1,762,409	502,236	190	183
1803 c.	Berbice . . . .	552	1,151	21,319	23,022	325,051	51,587	29	23
1670 t.	Honduras . . . .	250	2,266	2,127	4,643	190,795	792,278	42	33
	Totals				798,769	9,087,914	5,521,169	958	918
1704 c.	Gibraltar . . . .	17,024	nil.	nil.	17,024	34,535	1,117,615	16	93
1800 c.	Malta . . . .	104,489							
	Gozo . . . .	15,480			119,969	20,784	505,359	11	46
	Cape of Good Hope . . . .	55,675	37,852	35,509	129,036	238,133	383,427	36	35
1787 s.	Sierra Leone and Gambia . . . .	87	15,123	15,210	15,210	258,570	511,779	103	116
1631 s.	Ceylon . . . .	24	2,192	2,216	2,216	202,668	46,496	4	9
1795 c.	Mauritius . . . .	6,414	906,389	20,464	933,267	451,998	280,530	41	27
1810 c.	New South Wales . . . .	8,844	15,851	76,774	101,469	92,528	250,620		
1787 s.	Van Dieman's Land . . . .	20,930	15,668	15,668	36,598				
		Aborigi- nes not ascertained.	Convicts	8,484	17,905	33,191	58,913	30	81
1803 s.	Swan River . . . .	9,421		Convicts					
1829 s.		850			850		37,210		
	General Totals	2,229,725 White and Free.	829,665 Slaves, ex- clusive of Convicts.	3,083,542 Total Population.	11,508,943 Imports.	10,777,244 Exports.	2,808 Ships. 757,375 Tons.	2,977 Ships. 767,242 Tons.	



*The following is an account of the value of the IMPORTS into, and EXPORTS from, each Colony in the year 1833:—*

	Imports.	Exports.
	£.	£.
Canada . . .	1,665,144	965,026
New Brunswick . .	549,215	469,464
Nova Scotia (including Cape Breton) }	757,620	431,385
Cape Breton . . .	10,324	28,608
Prince Edward's Island }	1,693	3,956
Newfoundland . . .	595,909	715,098
Antigua . . .	170,334	183,285
Barbadoes . . .	438,679	418,351
Dominica . . .	38,421	119,528
Grenada . . .	114,179	281,130
Demerara and Essequibo }	487,229	1,577,615
Berbice . . .	70,345	258,954
Jamaica . . .	1,519,452	2,489,797
Montserrat . . .	8,065	18,885
Nevis . . .	23,030	44,729
St. Christopher . .	71,703	102,378
St. Lucia . . .	34,723	63,510
St. Vincent . . .	126,763	283,170
Tobago . . .	54,731	106,589
Trinidad . . .	287,453	268,446
Tortola . . .	10,006	31,105
Bermuda . . .	86,145	13,522
Bahamas . . .	107,399	76,614
Mauritius . . .	593,382	636,089

Ceylon . . .	320,891	100,470
Cape of Good Hope .	394,521	267,086
New South Wales . .	693,990	340,116
VanDiemen's Land . .	237,023	119,420
Malta . . .	503,444	364,277
Ionian Islands . . .	563,611	250,669
Sierra Leone . . .	93,786	62,707

*Annual Cost to Britain, as Military Establishments, of the undermentioned Colonies, taken from the Returns of 1832:—*

Gibraltar . . .	£172,439
Malta . . .	100,462
Cape of Good Hope . .	99,928
Mauritius . . .	99,332
Bermuda . . .	67,216
Heligoland . . .	500
Ionian Islands . . .	102,899
Jamaica, Bahamas, and Honduras . . .	141,605
Windward and Leeward Islands . .	386,634
Lower and Upper Canada . .	208,248
Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward's Island and Newfoundland . . .	143,568
Sierra Leone and Gambia . .	28,002
Ceylon . . .	116,844
Western Australia . . .	3,481
New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land . . .	90,339
Total . . .	£1,761,505

*Actual Expenditure incurred by the United Kingdom on account of the CANADAS; the declared Value of British Exports thereto, and the Official Value of Imports and Exports, British and Colonial.*

Years.	Actual Expenditure.	Declared Value of British Exports.	Imports.	Official Value.
	£.	£.	£.	£.
1834 . . .	220,788	799,912	613,596	1,339,625
1835 . . .	166,661	1,184,985	629,051	2,127,531
1836 . . .	259,380	1,539,153	633,575	2,739,507

#### TURNPIKES IN GREAT BRITAIN.

In 1829 the extent of turnpike-roads was, in England, 18,244 miles; Wales, 2,631; Scotland, 3,666: total length in Britain, 24,541 miles. Between 1818 and 1829 the length of turnpikes had increased in England and Wales 1000 miles. From accounts of turnpike trusts for the year ending Dec. 31, 1834, it appears there are in England and Wales 1,108 trusts; the number of surveyors is 912; treasurers, 822; clerks, 771. The following is the general state of the trusts in that year:—

England.	Wales.
£.	£.

Income from tolls, fines, parish composition in lieu of statute-duty, &c. . . .	1,656,417	97,127
Expenditure in labour, materials, interest of debts, law-charges, &c. . . .	1,725,647	103,083

Debts on bonds, mortgages, and floating debts, &c. . . . 7,980,744 472,646.

The rents of all the turnpike-gates in Scotland for the year preceding Whit Sunday, 1835, was 254,678*l*.

#### SHIPWRECKS.

1. Number of ships and vessels belonging to the United Kingdom which were wrecked or lost in the periods specified below, appears, by a return made to a Committee of the House of Commons, appointed to inquire into the causes of the increase of shipwreck, from the books of Lloyd's, to be as follows:—

Number of Vessels Stranded or Wrecked.			
1816 . . .	343	1833 . . .	595
1817 . . .	362	1834 . . .	454
1818 . . .	409	1835 . . .	524
1,114		1,573	

## Number of Vessels Missing or Lost.

1816 . . .	19	1833 . . .	56
1817 . . .	40	1834 . . .	43
1818 . . .	30	1835 . . .	30
	89		129

Taking the number of vessels wrecked and lost in the two periods named above at the assumed value of 5000*l.* for each ship and cargo, on the average of the whole, the loss of property occasioned by these wrecks would amount, in the first three years, to 6,015,000*l.*, being an average of 2,005,000*l.* per annum; and in the last three years to 8,510,000*l.*, being an average of 2,836,666*l.* per annum.

2. Number of ships in each of the years above specified of which the entire crews were drowned, though the exact number of each crew is not stated, appears, from the books of Lloyd's, to have been as follows:—

## Number of Vessels in each Year, of which the entire Crews were Drowned.

1816 . . .	15	1833 . . .	38
1817 . . .	19	1834 . . .	24
1818 . . .	15	1835 . . .	19
	49		81

3. Number of persons drowned in each of the years specified, in addition to the above, and of which the number drowned belonging to each vessel is distinctly known, appears, by the same return from Lloyd's books, to be as follows:—

## Number of Persons drowned in each Year by Ships named.

1816 . . .	945	1833 . . .	572
1817 . . .	499	1834 . . .	578
1818 . . .	256	1835 . . .	564
	1,700		1,714

4. Among the various causes of ship wreck which appear susceptible of removal or diminution, the following appeared to the Committee to be the most frequent and the most generally admitted:—Defective construction of ships; inadequacy of equipment; imperfect state of repair; improper or excessive loading; inappropriateness of form; incompetency of masters and officers; drunkenness of officers and men; operation of marine insurance; want of harbours of refuge; imperfection of charts.

Amount of POSTAGE collected at the undermentioned Cities and Towns of the United Kingdom, during the year 1834, compared with the Gross Receipt during the years 1832 and 1833.

PLACES.	YEARS.					
	1832.		1833.		1834.	
	£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.
London . . .	632,696	17 8	642,871	0 7	660,411	11 4
Birmingham . . .	28,685	1 11	28,812	4 0	29,258	1 7
Bristol . . .	33,884	14 10	33,242	13 8	33,210	17 8
Coventry . . .	4,446	7 6	4,357	8 10	4,421	2 7
Hull . . .	14,607	14 4	14,853	19 9	14,859	15 1
Leeds . . .	20,316	10 11	21,331	18 0	20,670	6 5
Leicester . . .	6,464	11 10	6,439	9 5	6,463	6 6
Liverpool . . .	70,011	17 7	74,090	11 1	77,333	1 4
Macclesfield . . .	2,064	19 0	1,955	2 5	2,054	10 2
Manchester . . .	53,510	8 4	56,287	16 11	60,621	12 6
Norwich . . .	10,004	8 9	9,766	6 11	9,689	18 0
Nottingham . . .	9,033	4 10	9,368	7 1	9,195	2 4
Potteries and Newcastle (Stafford) . . .	6,714	10 8	6,858	7 8	7,891	11 9
Preston . . .	5,200	6 5	5,190	8 11	5,146	8 6
Sheffield . . .	11,027	9 0	11,582	16 2	11,759	16 4
Edinburgh . . .	42,759	17 0½	41,864	16 0	41,680	16 9½
Aberdeen . . .	8,668	6 8	8,479	12 1	8,596	15 0½
Dundee . . .	7,367	13 8½	7,904	8 2½	8,162	18 10
Glasgow . . .	36,053	12 11	36,481	0 3	36,483	3 5
Dublin . . .	80,611	19 10	69,096	9 8	70,344	1 1
Belfast . . .	9,747	8 10	9,457	13 11	10,312	1 9
Cork . . .	11,557	0 5	11,721	10 11	12,516	12 8
Limerick . . .	6,380	15 7	6,357	6 1	6,967	2 0
Drogheda . . .	1,932	19 3	1,935	14 3	2,040	15 5
Londonderry . . .	3,479	12 0	3,510	19 10	3,654	2 8
Waterford . . .	5,383	9 11	5,361	1 2	3,339	12 7



There are 54 four-horse mails in England and 49 pair-horse mails. The greatest speed travelled is 10 miles 5 furlongs per hour; slowest speed, 6 miles; average speed per hour 8 miles 9 furlongs. The number of four-horse mails in Scotland is 10, and of pair-horse mails, 4. The greatest speed travelled is 10 miles 4 furlongs per hour; slowest speed 7 miles; average

8 miles 2 furlongs per hour. In Ireland there are 30 four-horse mails and 5 pair-horse mails. The greatest speed travelled is 9 miles 1 furlong; slowest speed 6 miles 7 furlongs; average speed 8 miles 2 furlongs per hour. In Ireland there are 97 mail-cars employed in the conveyance of the mails. Their average speed is 6½ miles per hour.

### Expenditure of COUNTY RATES in ENGLAND and WALES.

Heads of Charges.	Expenditure.					
	1792, or other Year.			1832, or other Year.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Bridges . . . . .	42,237	0	0	74,501	0	0
Gaols, Houses of Correction, &c.	92,319	0	0	177,245	0	0
Prisoners—Maintenance of, &c.	45,785	0	0	127,297	0	0
Vagrants . . . . .	16,807	0	0	28,723	0	0
Prosecutions . . . . .	34,218	0	0	157,119	0	0
Lieutenancy and Militia . . . . .	16,976	0	0	2,116	0	0
Constables . . . . .	659	0	0	26,688	0	0
Professional . . . . .	8,990	0	0	31,103	0	0
Coroners . . . . .	8,153	0	0	15,254	0	0
Salaries . . . . .	16,315	0	0	51,401	0	0
Incidental . . . . .	17,456	0	0	32,931	0	0
Miscellaneous, Printing, &c. . . . .	15,890	15	7½	59,061	14	10½
	315,805	15	7½	783,441	14	10½

### ASSESSED TAXES.

The rental charged to the assessed taxes in Britain amounted to 10,261,334*l.* in the year 1821; to 11,106,237*l.* in 1826; and to 12,629,980*l.* in 1832; but in 1825, the tax upon houses rented under 10*l.* was repealed. This produced, in the year previous to the repeal, the sum of 1,171,667*l.* The total amount is distinguished into classes, which, for the year 1832, may thus be stated, together with the number of houses to which the amount was charged:—

	Rent.	Houses.
£10	£1,653,481	146,828
15	1,312,948	79,745
20	1,103,281	53,159
25	707,775	27,477
30	970,892	31,869
35	653,932	18,280
40	848,206	20,994
45	357,933	7,870
50	662,812	13,183
55	182,356	3,295
60	583,178	9,674
65	136,952	2,086
70	355,703	5,064
75	104,353	1,384
80	385,467	4,797
85	45,754	533
90	181,926	2,017
95	30,950	324
100	417,126	4,149
110	117,465	1,055
120	235,633	1,953

£	£	Rent.	Houses.
130	140	£119,533	914
140	150	96,385	685
150	160	176,695	1,175
160	170	81,788	508
170	180	57,461	335
180	190	91,158	505
190	200	25,365	133
200	220	220,250	1,094
220	240	66,655	293
240	260	101,727	410
260	280	35,220	133
280	300	23,400	83
300	350	114,199	373
350	400	66,026	185
400 and upwards		309,973	529

Total £12,629,980 443,090

The inhabited house-duty, on which the above is founded, was repealed in 1834.

The number of male domestic servants, with the amount which the tax on them produced, was as follows in the specified years:—

	Number.	Duty.
1820 . . . . .	85,344	£319,087
1823 . . . . .	85,731	158,630
1826 . . . . .	90,061	167,167
1829 . . . . .	96,671	177,169
1832 . . . . .	103,381	187,280

The following shows the number of servants kept by persons distinguished as "bachelors" or "not bachelors," and

classed so as to exhibit the number of servants, from one to eleven and upwards, in the employ of individuals, with the amount of duty contributed under each head. It applies to the year 1832, and is limited to domestic servants:—

By persons keeping		Not kept by Bachelors.		Kept by Bachelors.	
		Number.	Duty.	Number.	Duty.
1	.	45,909	£55,090	6,468	£14,229
2	.	14,265	22,110	1,929	4,918
3	.	9,295	17,660	1,065	3,088
4	.	5,985	13,017	731	2,320
5	.	3,746	9,177	447	1,542
6	.	2,581	6,646	382	1,365
7	.	1,828	4,798	261	946
8	.	1,484	4,155	166	630
9	.	590	3,019	81	328
10	.	615	2,044	70	302
11 and upwards	.	4,639	17,744	444	2,142
Total		91,337	£155,465	12,044	£31,815

## LEGACY DUTY.

A Return showing the amount of capital on which the several rates of Legacy-duty were paid in Britain, in the years 1834-5—namely:—

Rate of Duty	1834.	1835.
1 per cent.	£22,109,303	£22,085,931
2½ do.	160,338	206,593
3 do.	1,240,973	11,931,662
4 do.	36,792	16,549
5 do.	1,558,875	1,642,198
6 do.	300,572	300,998
8 do.	91,538	94,844
10 do.	4,915,934	4,813,882
	£41,574,628	£41,092,660

For the two years the capital amounts to 82,667,288*l*. A similar return for Ireland exhibits the extraordinary difference in the circumstances of the two countries: the amount of capital on which duty was paid being, for the two years, 4,545,765*l*.

	1834.	1835.
At 10 <i>s</i> . per cent.	£1,243,471	£1,552,892
25 <i>s</i> . do.	606,059	597,406
40 <i>s</i> . do.	83,912	68,391
50 <i>s</i> . do.	81,983	4,382
100 <i>s</i> . do.	163,792	143,377

## FIRE INSURANCE COMPANIES.

An Account of the sums paid into the Stamp-office for duty on INSURANCE from fire, and of the sums insured by each fire-office on farming stock exempt from duty during 1834:—

London Offices.	Duty on Insurance.			Amount of Farming Stock Insured exempt from Duty.
	£.	<i>s</i> .	<i>d</i> .	
Alliance	21,034	1	6	372,145
Atlas	21,398	10	0	614,983
British	16,428	13	3	311,603

London Offices.	Duty on Insurance.			Amount of Farming Stock Insured exempt from Duty.
	£.	<i>s</i> .	<i>d</i> .	
County	40,471	13	4	5,194,386
Globe	27,355	1	7	633,648
Guardian	32,114	1	4	664,745
Hand-in-Hand	10,950	2	4	2,125
Imperial	27,020	12	1	200,035
London	9,490	9	5	55,465
Phoenix	72,821	14	5	2,862,371
Protector	56,676	17	8	1,588,555
Royal Exchange	55,266	1	9	3,109,545
Sun	127,470	8	11	3,801,766
Union	16,370	5	10	190,029
Westminster	15,531	3	8	21,410
Bath Sun	1,568	12	6	49,670
Birmingham	6,042	2	9	507,255
Bristol	3,652	4	2	20,905
Bristol Crown	1,753	4	1	1,000
Bristol Union	2,552	18	9	4,527
District Birmingham	147	19	2	6,720
Essex Economic	2,595	9	3	496,553
Essex and Suffolk	5,356	0	3	955,963
Hants, Sussex, and Dorset	2,598	2	1	239,690
Kent	10,290	5	1	1,024,486
Leeds & Yorkshire	8,966	3	2	177,445
Manchester	18,318	12	9	237,687
Newcastle-upon-Tyne	5,108	14	0	281,167
New Norwich Equitable	1,294	19	8	229,633
Norwich Union	59,826	3	8	8,080,890
Reading	202	4	2	
Salamander	5,021	2	1	615,951
Salop	2,812	11	8	280,342
Sheffield	2,056	13	4	89,520
Shields, North and South	758	5	1	
Suffolk, East	4,117	6	8	820,450
West	5,781	16	11	1,096,825
West of England	20,284	16	3	671,313
Yorkshire	4,992	15	10	1,403,478

## PORT OF LIVERPOOL.

Amount of dock duties received at the port of Liverpool every tenth year, from 1752 to 1832.



Years.	Dock Duties.	Vessels.	Years.	Dock Duties.	Vessels.
1752 . . .	£1,776 . . .	—	1796 . . .	£12,377 . . .	4,738
1756 . . .	2,187 . . .	—	1801 . . .	28,365 . . .	5,060
1761 . . .	2,382 . . .	1,319	1806 . . .	44,560 . . .	4,676
1766 . . .	3,653 . . .	1,908	1811 . . .	54,752 . . .	5,616
1771 . . .	4,203 . . .	2,087	1816 . . .	43,765 . . .	6,888
1776 . . .	5,064 . . .	2,216	1821 . . .	43,131 . . .	7,810
1781 . . .	3,915 . . .	2,512	1826 . . .	60,411 . . .	9,601
1786 . . .	7,508 . . .	3,228	1831 . . .	81,039 . . .	12,537
1791 . . .	11,645 . . .	4,045	1832 . . .	74,530 . . .	12,928

Tonnage of the vessels in 1801 amounted to 459,719; in 1832, to 1,540,057.

## WHALE FISHERY.

Number of Ships employed in the Whale fishery from 1820 to 1834.

Years.	INWARD.		OUTWARD.	
	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.
1820	194	62,750	210	64,847
1821	197	60,257	196	59,445
1822	157	48,204	169	49,700
1823	170	51,796	179	55,297
1824	148	45,925	144	44,378

## INWARD.

## OUTWARD.

Years.	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.
1825	138	42,736	142	43,721
1826	125	39,394	128	40,532
1827	119	38,002	121	38,290
1828	106	34,029	110	35,829
1829	113	35,982	119	39,540
1830	97	31,897	123	40,166
1831	111	37,454	110	36,472
1832	106	34,900	116	38,240
1833	94	30,755	100	32,275
1834	107	34,161	99	33,014

## PUBLIC CHARITIES.

COUNTY OR CITY.	Rent.	Rent Charges, Land-tax Deducted.	Dividends and Interest.	Income of Endowed Schools.	For Education not in Endowed Schools.	Total for Education	Income for other purposes.	Total.
Bedford . . .	£12,123	£614	£930	£1,626	£214	£1,841	£11,836	£13,677
Buckingham . . .	7,865	1,607	1,926	1,413	169	1,583	9,815	11,399
Cumberland . . .	1,858	376	1,041	1,802	85	1,888	1,388	3,277
Derby . . .	7,897	1,918	2,680	3,547	127	3,675	8,821	12,496
Devon . . .	20,063	2,259	6,072	5,755	785	6,540	21,853	28,394
Durham . . .	13,902	766	2,455	1,783	80	1,863	15,261	17,124
Gloucester . . .	13,788	1,180	3,787	4,510	874	5,385	14,072	19,457
Hertford . . .	7,797	1,559	2,583	2,501	363	2,865	9,345	12,211
Huntingdon . . .	3,108	247	377	854	172	1,026	2,706	3,732
Lancaster . . .	24,824	5,050	5,851	18,455	259	18,715	17,011	35,726
Monmouth . . .	3,745	316	821	1,919	13	1,933	2,950	4,883
Norfolk . . .	30,427	1,456	5,302	5,703	538	6,242	30,943	37,186
Northampton . . .	14,117	1,702	2,179	3,207	687	3,895	14,105	18,000
Northumberland . . .	3,793	666	1,188	2,478	40	2,518	3,129	5,648
Nottingham . . .	13,720	672	1,809	2,687	224	2,912	13,289	16,202
Oxford . . .	7,431	1,317	4,341	1,621	118	1,740	11,349	13,090
Rutland . . .	4,182	333	267	1,290	197	1,487	3,295	4,783
Salop . . .	14,506	1,384	4,133	6,231	197	6,428	13,594	20,023
Somerset & Bristol . . .	22,506	2,898	9,509	7,581	574	8,156	26,757	34,913
Southampton . . .	5,264	1,755	3,452	2,730	623	3,353	7,118	10,472
Stafford . . .	14,077	2,444	2,643	6,693	440	7,133	12,032	19,165
Suffolk . . .	23,708	1,725	1,684	2,972	1,018	3,991	23,126	27,117
Surrey . . .	27,217	1,562	6,559	5,547	1,049	6,597	28,742	35,339
Warwick & Coven- Westmoreland [try Wilts . . .	33,531	1,459	5,140	11,856	660	12,516	27,614	40,131
Worcester . . .	3,661	386	1,097	1,952	220	2,172	2,973	5,145
York . . .	10,364	1,533	4,724	1,727	367	2,094	14,527	16,622
Anglesey . . .	12,577	1,161	3,515	7,375	291	7,666	9,587	17,254
Caernarvon . . .	61,233	5,978	14,271	18,678	2,453	21,133	60,351	81,483
Merioneth . . .	1,105	180	199	506	29	535	860	1,395
Cardigan . . .	1,784	193	241	871	66	937	1,281	2,219
Carmarthen . . .	404	95	840	267	55	323	516	840
Pembroke . . .	287	4	79	294	12	306	64	370
Berks . . .	246	237	601	370	41	411	673	1,085
Kent . . .	1,393	183	206	412	38	451	1,332	1,783
Sussex . . .	3,418	365	2,216	4,140	626	4,766	1,234	6,001
London companies do. Parochial cha- Westminster [rities Middlesex . . . General charities .	5,809	1,308	2,522	6,559	918	7,478	2,162	9,640
	2,657	460	1,393	3,383	401	3,784	726	4,510
	40,290	5,078	14,025	13,080	292	13,372	21,148	59,393
	25,711	1,630	7,178	4,600	519	5,119	6,730	11,849
	8,555	198	13,483	11,313	778	12,091	21,103	33,195
	18,162	1,549	443	..	310	310	16,097	16,407
Grand Total .	540,565	56,963	150,649	180,309	16,938	197,248	491,536	748,178

It appears from a Return, dated May, 1835, that the total amount of money paid by the Treasury on account of this Inquiry from 1818 to 1835 was 208,527*l.* 13*s.* The proceedings under the commission had terminated in twenty-eight counties of England and six of Wales. In the counties of Berks, Dorset, Essex, Kent, Middlesex, and Sussex, the inquiry was not completed. In Berkshire, Kent and Sussex, the charities for education only had been investigated. In Dorsetshire, 56 parishes, townships, and chapelries had been investigated; in Essex, 52; and in Middlesex, 88. The Return states that there are no means of forming a definite opinion as to the extent to which these counties are unfinished. In addition to the above-mentioned six counties, the cities of London and Westminster, and the charities under the management of the chartered companies of London were unfinished. In the city of London, the charities of 140 parishes, and the education charities in two others; and in the city of Westminster, the charities of three parishes, and the education charities of four others, had been investigated. The charities under the management of the corporation of London, and of 39 chartered companies, had been investigated. In the following counties the inquiry had not been commenced:—in England,—Cambridge, Chester, Cornwall, Hereford, Leicester, Lincoln; in Wales,—Brecon, Denbigh, Flint, Glamorgan, Montgomery, Radnor. The number of charities investigated in each county in England was as follows:—Bedford, 270; Berks, 89; Bucks, 700; Cumberland, 311; Derby, 1003; Devon, 1736; Dorset, 172; Durham, 345; Essex, 324; Gloucester, 996; Hereford, 17; Hertford, 698; Huntingdon, 226; Kent, 139; Lancaster, 1181; London—parishes, 947; also charities under the management of the corporation of London, and of the chartered companies, 665; and in Middlesex, including the city of Westminster, 925; Monmouth, 235; Norfolk, 1710; Northampton, 721; Northumberland, 170; Nottingham, 567; Oxford, 849; Rutland, 70; Salop, 743; Somerset, including Bristol, 1621; Southampton, 553; Stafford, 1124; Suffolk, 986; Surrey, including Southwark, 837; Sussex, 90; Warwick, 1030; Westmoreland, 355; Wilts, 750; Worcester, 930; York, 2603; general charities, 13.—Total, 26,751. In Wales

—Anglesey, 277; Cardigan, 36; Carmarthen, 139; Carnarvon, 102; Merioneth, 140; Pembroke, 106.—Total, 890.

In 1835 the appointment of the ex-chancellor, lord Brougham, and sir E. B. Sugden, with other new commissioners, it was thought would have rapidly completed this protracted investigation. But this effort terminated like preceding ones, only by a further addition to the mass of reports previously existing, and the undertaking remains unfinished; ministers declining in 1837 to propose a further grant of public money.

#### PRICES AND WAGES

(Abridged from Communications made to the Board of Trade.)

*Statement taken from the Weekly Book of ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL, in Southwark, of the prices of BEEF and MUTTON per stone, at Lady-day, in every fifth year to the year 1832.*

Years.	Beef.		Mutton.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
1688	1	10		
1692	1	10		
1697	2	1		
1702	1	10		
1707	1	8		
1712	1	11		
1717	2	0		
1722	1	8		
1727	1	8	2	2
1732	2	0	2	6
1737	1	8	1	10
1742	2	3	2	8
1747	1	10	2	2
1752	1	8	2	0
1757	2	0	2	3
1762	1	10	2	3
1767	2	6	3	0
1772	2	8	3	0
1777	2	6	2	10
1782	2	4	2	6
1787	3	0	3	2
1792	3	0	3	2
1797	4	2	4	2
1802	5	0	5	4
1807	4	8	5	0
1812	6	0	6	0
1817	3	8	4	8
1822	2	10	3	4
1827	4	0	4	4
1832	3	4	4	2

The pieces of beef are rounds, chucks, clobs, and leg of mutton pieces. The pieces of mutton are legs and loins.



*Prices of Provisions in the Town of MANCHESTER, in each year from 1826 to 1832, both inclusive.*

	1826.	1827	1828.	1829.	1830.	1831.	1832.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Beef, best* . per lb.	0 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 6	0 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 6	0 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 6	0 0
coarse . do.	0 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 4	0 4	0 3 $\frac{3}{4}$	0 3	0 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 0
Bacon . . . do.	0 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 8	0 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 7	0 7
Bread, flour per 12 lbs.	2 5	2 5	2 7	2 9	2 7	2 6	2 4
wheaten per lb.	0 0	0 0	0 1 $\frac{3}{4}$	0 2	0 2	0 1 $\frac{3}{4}$	0 1 $\frac{3}{4}$
Cheese . . . do.	0 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 8	0 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 8	0 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Malt . . . per 9 lbs.	2 1	2 4	2 2	2 2	2 1	2 4	2 2
Meal . . . per 10 lbs.	1 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 7	1 5	1 6	1 6	1 3
Potatoes† . per 252 lbs.	9 9	4 9	5 8	6 6	6 0	6 3	4 3
Pork . . . per lb.	0 6 $\frac{3}{4}$	0 7	0 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 5	0 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 5 $\frac{1}{2}$

\* Contract prices at the Royal Infirmary. † Contract prices at the Workhouse.  
The other prices are such as were charged by retail shopkeepers:

*An account showing the PRICES upon which the estimate for BREAD and MEAT was formed for the ARMY in Great Britain by the Commissariat Department in 1832.*

Counties.	Bread. per 4 lb.	Meat. per lb.
Berks . . .	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.
Devon . . .	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.
Hants . . .	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.
Kent . . .	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	4
Lancaster . . .	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

Counties.	Bread. per 4 lb.	Meat. per lb.
Middlesex . .	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.
Sussex . . .	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.
Warwick . . .	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.
York . . .	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.
North Britain .	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

Average prices about 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

This return is important as showing the difference of price in different parts of the kingdom.

*Prices of the principal articles of CONSUMPTION in the Market of LIMERICK, 1820 to 1831.*

Articles.	1820.	1822.	1825.	1828.	1831.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Beef . . . per lb.	0 4	0 4	0 4	0 4	0 3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Mutton . . . do.	0 4	0 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 4	0 4	0 4
Pork . . . per cwt.	20 0	20 0	33 0	30 0	24 0
Butter . . . do.	70 0	76 0	76 0	74 0	88 0
Flour . . . per bag.	34 0	36 0	44 0	31 0	42 0
Potatoes . . . per stone.	0 2	0 5	0 3	0 2	0 3
Oatmeal . . . per cwt.	10 6	14 0	14 6	12 0	15 6
Wheat . . . per stone.	1 7	1 0	1 8	1 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 2
Barley . . . do.	1 4	0 9	1 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 10	0 10
Oats . . . do.	0 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 8	0 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 8	0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$
Whiskey . . per Irish gall.	10 6	10 0	7 0	5 9	6 6

*A statement of the WEEKLY WAGES of LABOUR in the TOWN of MANCHESTER and the other principal Seats of the COTTON MANUFACTURE; with an Account of the Retail Prices of sundry articles of Provision in the years 1810 to 1825.*

Provisions.	1810	1815	1820	1824	1825
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Flour, per 12 lbs. "Good	3 9	2 7	2 5	2 0	2 2
Seconds" . . . }					
Oatmeal, per do.	2 6	2 2	2 1	1 9	1 9
Potatoes, per 20 lbs.	0 8	0 11	0 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 6	0 7
Butcher's Meat, per lb.	0 8	0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Do. do. coarse pieces	0 6	0 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 5	0 4	0 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bacon, per lb.	0 11	0 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 8	0 8	0 8
Irish Butter, per lb.	1 1	1 2	0 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 10	0 11
Cheese . . .	0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 7	0 6 $\frac{3}{4}$	0 7

*Spinning.*

Fine Spinners . . .	42 6	32 0	32 0	..	..
Coarse do. . . .	Will run from 20s. to 28s. per week during the whole of the time.	17 0	17 0	25 6	25 6
Women do. . . .	12 0	10 0	10 0	16 9	16 9
Reelers . . . .	12 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	10 0

	1810	1815	1820	1824	1825
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Stretchers . . .	15 6	14 0	14 0	17 6	17 6
Pickers . . .	11 3	10 0	9 0	7 0	7 0

*Weaving by hand.*

Nankeens . . .	16 3	13 2	11 0	6 6	6 6
Best 74 $\frac{7}{8}$ Calicoes . . .	10 10	8 3	4 6	4 6	4 3
Third do. . . . .	11 8	8 0	4 6	4 6	4 3
Strong $\frac{9}{8}$ do. . . . .	13 0	8 9	9 0	5 0	4 8
Velveteens . . . . .	12 0	10 4	8 9	7 0	6 6
Bolton Cambrics, 60 Reed. .	16 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	10 5	7 5	7 0	6 3
Manchester do. 80 „ „	14 0	10 3	7 6	7 6	6 6
Quiltings, 36 „ „	16 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	13 0	8 6	7 0	6 6
Do. fine . . . . .	17 2	18 3	10 0	9 0	8 6
Fancy Articles . . . .	21 0	18 3	11 0	8 6	8 0

*Printing and Bleaching.*

Calico Printers. . . .	26 0	26 0	26 0	20 6	17 6
Bleachers and Finishers .	18 6	18 6	18 6	21 6	21 6

Fustian Cutters . . . .	14 0	14 0	14 0	16 0	21 0
Warpers . . . . .	16 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	16 0
Dyers and Dressers . . .	15 0	15 0	15 6	16 3	17 6
Skein Dyers . . . . .	16 0	16 0	18 0	18 0	18 0
Hat Finishers . . . . .	27 5	22 2	•	•	•
Tailors . . . . .	18 6	21 6	18 6	21 0	21 0
Porters . . . . .	18 0	18 0	18 0	15 0	15 0
Packers . . . . .	20 0	20 0	20 0	21 0	21 0
Shoemakers . . . . .	16 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	16 0
Ironfounders . . . . .	31 3	32 1	31 6	30 0	30 0
Whitesmiths . . . . .	25 0	25 0	25 0	27 0	27 0
Sawyers . . . . .	25 0	25 0	30 0	25 0	25 0
Carpenters . . . . .	25 0	25 0	25 0	22 0	24 0
Stonemasons . . . . .	22 0	22 0	22 0	22 0	24 0
Bricklayers . . . . .	22 6	22 6	22 6	21 0	24 0
Painters . . . . .	22 0	22 0	22 0	22 0	22 0
Slaters . . . . .	21 0	21 0	21 0	18 0	21 0
Plasterers . . . . .	19 0	19 0	19 0	20 0	21 0
Bricklayers' Labourers . .	15 9	15 9	15 9	14 0	16 0
Spademen . . . . .	15 0	15 0	13 6	13 0	14 0

DAILY WAGES of various MECHANICS, and of the RETAIL PRICES of various Articles of PROVISIONS and HOUSEHOLD STORES in the City of GLASGOW, from 1810 to 1831.

Average Wages.	1810	1815	1819	1831
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Masons . . . . . 9 working hours.	2 10	3 0	2 6	2 4
Bricklayers . . . . . 9 „	2 10	2 10	2 8	2 6
Plasterers . . . . . 9 „	3 6	3 8	3 6	3 4
Slaters . . . . . 9 „	2 9	3 6	3 4	3 2
Plumbers . . . . . 10 „	3 9	3 9	3 9	3 7
Painters . . . . . 9 „	2 10	2 10	2 10	2 9
Joiners . . . . . 10 „	3 0	3 0	2 4	2 4
Sawyers . . . . . 10 „	4 0	4 0	4 0	3 3
Labourers . . . . . 9 „	1 10	1 10	1 3	1 6
Shoemakers . . . . . 12 „	2 6	2 6	2 6	2 6
Bootmakers . . . . . 12 „	3 4	3 4	3 4	3 4
Bootclosers . . . . . 12 „	3 9	3 9	3 9	3 9
Blacksmiths . . . . . 10 „	2 4	2 8	2 10	2 10
Tailors . . . . . 12 „	3 2	3 2	3 4	3 4
Cabinetmakers . . . . . 10 „	3 2	3 2	2 2	2 6
Coopers . . . . . 10 „	2 8	2 8	2 8	2 8
Fleshers . . . . . 10 „	2 6	2 6	2 6	2 6
Gardeners . . . . . 10 „	2 6	2 6	2 6	2 6
Porters . . . . . 11 „	2 4	2 4	2 2	2 2
Machinists . . . . . 10 „	3 2	3 2	3 2	3 2
Weavers of 4-4th Cambrics 1,300 . .	2 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 0	0 9	1 0



Average Wages.	1810	1815	1819	1831
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Warpers . . . . .	3 6	3 6	2 6	2 9
Calenderers . . . . .	2 6	2 6	2 4	2 6
Oatmeal, per Peck . . . . .	1 8	1 6	1 3	1 2
Barley, per lb. . . . .	0 2	0 1½	0 2	0 1½
Potatoes, 40 lbs. weight . . . . .	0 11	0 10	0 10	0 10
Beef . . . . .	0 8½	0 8	0 7½	0 5
Coarse Pieces, per lb. . . . .	0 6½	0 6	0 5½	0 4
Pork per lb. . . . .	0 7½	0 7	0 6½	0 5
Bacon per lb. . . . .	0 8	0 8	0 7	0 6
Bread, Wheaten, Quarter Loaf . . . . .	1 3½	0 10½	0 11½	0 8½
Household or Brown . . . . .	0 10½	0 7½	0 8½	0 6½
Milk . . . . .	0 6	0 6	0 6	0 5
Salt Herrings, per lb. . . . .	0 4	0 4	0 3	0 2½
Scotch Cheese, per lb. . . . .	1 0	1 0	0 8½	0 6
Irish Butter, per lb. . . . .	1 4	1 4	1 1	0 10
Salt, per lb. . . . .	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½	0 0 4-12
Candles, per lb. . . . .	0 11	1 0	1 0	0 7
Soap, White, per lb. . . . .	0 11	0 11	0 10	0 7½
Ditto, Brown, ditto . . . . .	0 10	0 10	0 9	0 6½
Coals, 12 Cwt. . . . .	7 0	7 3	5 6	4 6
Black Tea, per oz. . . . .	0 5	0 5	0 4	0 4
Brown Sugar, per lb. . . . .	0 9	0 11	0 7	0 5½
Tobacco, per oz. . . . .	0 3½	0 5½	0 4½	0 3
Snuff, per oz. . . . .	0 3½	0 5½	0 4½	0 3
Schooling, Children each per day . . . . .	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½
House Rent of a Family per annum . . . . .	100 0	100 0	90 0	85 0

## MEN OF LETTERS.

William Hazlitt, criticism, essays, 1778 1830. "Essay on the Principles of Human Action," 8vo.; "The Eloquence of the British Senate, with Notes," 2 vols., 8vo., 1808; "An Improved English Grammar," 18mo., 1810; "The Round Table," a collection of essays, written in conjunction with Leigh Hunt, 2 vols., 8vo., 1817; "Characters of Shakspeare's Plays," 8vo., 1817; "A View of the English Stage," 8vo., 1818; "Lectures on the English Poets," 8vo., 1818; "Political Essays, with Sketches of Public Characters," 8vo., 1819; "Letter to Wm. Gifford, Esq.;" "The Spirit of the Age," 8vo.; "The Literature of the Elizabethan Age;" "Table Talk," 8vo.; "The Modern Pygmalion;" "Notes on a Journey through France and Italy;" "Conversations of James Northcote, Esq.;" "Life of Napoleon Buonaparte," 4 vols., 8vo., 1830.

Henry Mackenzie, poetry, novels, 1746—1831. "Man of Feeling," a novel, 8vo., 1771; "The Pursuit of Happiness," poem, 1772; "Miscellaneous Works," 8 vols., 8vo., 1810. Mr. Mackenzie also wrote several plays, and edited the "Mirror" and "Lounger," Edinburgh periodicals.

Thomas Hope,—fine arts, novels,—1831. "Household Furniture and Internal Decorations," fol., 1805; "Costume of the Ancients," 2 vols., 8vo., 1809; "Anastatius, or Memoirs of a Modern Greek," a romance, 3 vols., 8vo.; "On the Origin and Prospects of Man," posthumous work.

William Roscoe, biography, poetry, 1752—1831. "Wrongs of Africa," poem,

1788; "The Vine-covered Hills," and "Millions be Free," two ballads, about 1790; "Life of Lorenzo de Medici," 2 vols., 4to., 1795; "Life and Pontificate of Leo X.," 4 vols., 4to., 1805. Mr. Roscoe was the author of several effective political pamphlets.

Richard Dupper, travels, biography,—1831. "Journal of Occurrences at Rome on the subversion of the Ecclesiastical Government in 1798," 8vo., 1799; "Heads from Michael Angelo and Raffaello in the Vatican," fol., 1803; "Life of Buonarrotti," 1806; "Life of Raffaele," 1816; "Travels in Italy," 1828; "Travels on the Continent, in Sicily, and the Lipari Islands," 1829.

Rev. Robert Hall, theology, morals, 1764—1831. "Christianity consistent with a Love of Freedom," 8vo., 1791; "Apology for the Freedom of the Press," 8vo., a reply to Bishop Horsley's sermon, Jan. 13, 1793; "Modern Infidelity, its Influence on Society considered," 8vo., 1800; "The advantage of Knowledge to the Lower Classes," a sermon, 8vo., 1803; "Character of the late Rev. Thomas Robinson," 8vo., 1813. This eloquent preacher was for some time one of the conductors of the Eclectic Review.

Sir Nathaniel William Wraxall, memoirs, travels, 1751—1831. "Tour round the Baltic," 8vo., 1775; "History of the Kings of France of the race of Valois," 2 vols., 8vo., 1777; "History of the Reigns of Henry III. and Henry IV., Kings of France," 3 vols., 4to.; "Memoirs of the Courts of Berlin, Dresden, Warsaw, and Vienna," 2 vols., 8vo., 1799; "Historical Memoirs of my Own Time," 3 vols., 8vo.,

1815; "An Answer to the Calumnious Misrepresentations of the Edinburgh and Quarterly Reviews, and of the British Critic," relative to the Historical Memoirs.

John Bigland, history, topography, 1750—1832. "Letters on the Study of History," 12mo., 1804; "A System of Geography and History," 5 vols., 8vo., 1809; "History of Europe from the Peace of 1783, 2 vols., 8 vo., 1811; "Influence of Physical and Moral Causes on the Character of Nations," 1817; "Letters on French History."

Rev. Caleb Charles Colton, poetry, maxims,—1832. "A Plain Narrative of the Sampford Ghost," 8vo., 1810; "Hypocrisy," a satire, 8vo., 1812; "Napoleon," a poem; "Lacon, or Many Things in Few Words," 8vo., 1820; "An Ode on the Death of Lord Byron," privately circulated.

Sir James Mackintosh, history, metaphysics, 1765—1832. "De Actione Muscalori," a Latin thesis, 1787; "Travels in Europe, Asia, and Africa," 2 vols., 8vo. (Watt's Bibliotheca); a pamphlet on the Regency Question, 8vo., 1789; "Vindiciæ Gallicæ," 8vo., 1791; "A Discourse on the Law of Nature and of Nations," 8vo., 1799; "Discourses on the Laws of England," 8vo., 1799; "History of England to A.D. 1572," 3 vols., 8vo., 1830—1; "Memoirs of Sir Thomas More" for Lardner's Cyclopædia; "Fragment on the Revolution of 1688," an unfinished work. Sir James was a contributor to the Edinburgh and Monthly Reviews, and the author of a Dissertation on the History of Moral and Metaphysical Philosophy, for the new edition of the Edinburgh Encyclopædia.

Anna Maria Porter, novels, tales, — 1832. "Artless Tales," 2 vols., 12mo., 1793, written before the authoress was twelve years of age; "The Lake of Killarney," 3 vols., 12mo., 1804; "The Hungarian Brothers," 3 vols., 1807; "Ballads, Romances and other Poems," 1811; "The Recluse of Norway," 4 vols., 1814; "Roche Blanche," 3 vols.; "Tales round a Winter's Hearth," 2 vols.; "Coming Out," 2 vols.; "The Barony," 3 vols.

Charles Butler, law, biography, 1749—1832. "Essay on the Legality of Impressing Seamen," 8vo., 1778, written in concert with Francis Hargrave, Esq.; "Coke's Commentary upon Littleton, with Notes," 13th edit., fol., 1788; "Horæ Biblicæ, or Literary History of the Sacred Books of the Jews and Christians," 8 vols., 1799; "Letter on the Penal Laws against the Catholics," 8vo., 1801; "Historical Account of the Laws against the Catholics," 8vo., 1801; "Horæ Juridicæ Subsecivæ," a series of notes

respecting the Grecian, Roman, feudal, and canon law, 8vo., 1804; "Notes on the Chief Revolutions of the States which composed the Empire of Charlemagne," 8vo., 1807; "History of the Political Revolutions of Germany," 8vo., 1812; "Lives of Fenelon, Bossuet, the Rev. Alban Butler, Michael de l'Hôpital, and Grotius," published separately; two volumes of "Reminiscences of Contemporary History;" "The Book of the Catholic Church," and vindication of that work.

Sir John Carr, travels, 1772—1832. "The Fury of Discord," a poem, 4to., 1803; "The Stranger in France," 4to., 1803; "Travels round the Baltic," 4to., 1805; "The Stranger in Ireland," 4to., 1806; "Tour in Holland," 4to.; "Tour in Scotland," 4to., 1809; "Travels in Spain, Majorca, and Minorca," 4to., 1811. This lively tourist received for the copyright of his Stranger in France, 100*l.*; his Baltic Tour, 500*l.*; Stranger in France 700*l.*; and Tour in Holland, 600*l.*

Rev. Adam Clarke, antiquary, oriental scholar, 1760—1832. "Dissertation on the Use and Abuse of Tobacco," 8vo., 1797; "A Bibliographical Dictionary," 6 vols., 12mo., 1802—1806; "Narrative of the Last Illness of Richard Porson," 8vo., 1808; "The Holy Scriptures, with Commentary and Critical Notes," 8 vols., 4to., 1810—1826; "Clavis Biblica, or a Compendium of Scripture Knowledge;" "Memoirs of the Wesley Family;" "Sermons;" he also edited Baxter's Christian Directory, Fleury's History of the Israelites, Shuckford's connexion of Profane and Sacred History, and Harmer's Observations on Passages of Scripture.

Sir John Leslie, mathematics, natural philosophy, 1766—1832. A translation of Buffon's "Natural History of Birds," 9 vols., 8vo., 1793; "An Experimental Inquiry into the Nature and Propagation of Heat," 8vo., 1804; "Elements of Geometry," 8vo., 1809; "Experiments on the Relations of Air to Heat and Moisture," 8vo., 1813: with many admirable articles in the Edinburgh Review, and a valuable Discourse on the History of Mathematical and Physical Science during the Eighteenth Century, inserted in the seventh edition of the Encyclopædia Britannica.

Elizabeth Spence, novels, miscellanies, 1768—1832. "Helen Sinclair," 2 vols., 12mo., 1799; "Letters from the North Highlands," 8vo.; "Sketches of the Manners, Customs, and Scenery of Scotland," 2 vols., 12mo.; "Dame Rebecca Berry," 3 vols., 12mo.: with some others.

Priscilla Wakefield, education, morals, 1751—1832. "Juvenile Anecdotes," 18mo., 1795; "Mental Improvement," 3 vols., 18mo, 1797; "Leisure Hours," 2 vols.,



12mo., 1796; "Reflections on the Present Condition of the Female Sex," 8vo., 1798; "Familiar Tour through the British Empire," 12mo., 1804; "Excursions in North America," 12mo., 1806; "Sketches of Human Manners," 12mo., 1807; "Anecdotes and Curious Facts," 12mo., 1809; "Instinct Displayed," 12mo., 1811; "Traveller in Africa," 12mo., 1814.

Rev. George Crabbe, poetry, 1754—1832. "The Library," a poem, 4to., 1781; "The Skull," a tale, 4to., 1783; "The Village," 1783; "The Newspaper," a poem, 4to., 1785; "The Parish Register," 1807; "The Borough," 8vo., 1810; "Tales in Verse," 8vo., 1812; "The Variations of Public Opinion as respects Religion," a sermon, 1817; "Tales of the Hall," 2 vols., 8vo., 1819.

Sir Walter Scott, poetry, novels, 1771—1832. Translations from the German of Bürger, "William and Helen," and "The Wild Huntsman," 1796; "Goetz Von Berlichingen," a tragedy, from Goethe, 8vo., 1799; "Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border," 3 vols., 8vo., 1802—3; "The Metrical Romance of Sir Tristram," 1804; "The Lay of the Last Minstrel," 4to., 1805; "Sir Henry Slingsby's and Captain Hodgson's Memoirs," 8vo., 1806; "Marmion," 4to., 1808; "Works of John Dryden," 18 vols. 8vo., 1808; "Strutt's 'Queen-hoo Hall,'" a romance, 4 vols. 12mo., 1808; "Sir Ralph Sadler's Life, Letters, and State Papers," 3 vols. 4to. 1809; "The Lady of the Lake," 4to., 1810; "Vision of Don Roderick," 4to., 1811; "Rokeby," 4to., 1812; "The Bridal of Triermain," 12mo., 1813; "Swift's Works," 19 vols., 1814; "Waverley," 3 vols., 12mo., 1814; "Lord of the Isles," 4to., 1815; "Paul's Letters to his Kinsfolk," 1816; "The Antiquary," 3 vols., 12mo., 1816; "Tales of my Landlord," 4 vols., 12mo., 1816; "Harold the Dauntless," 12mo., 1817; "Provincial Antiquities of Scotland," 4to., 1818; "Ivanhoe," 3 vols., 8vo., 1819; "Halidon Hill," 1822; "Letters of Malachi Malagrowther," 1826; "Life of Napoleon Buonaparte," 9 vols., 8vo., 1827; "Miscellaneous Prose Works," 6 vols., 8vo., 1827; "Tales of a Grandfather," 3 vols., 18mo., 1829; "Two Religious Discourses," 1828; "The Doom of Devorgoil," 1830; "Letters on Demonology and Witchcraft," 18mo., 1830; "Count Robert of Paris and Castle Dangerous," 1831.

Jeremy Bentham, legislation, morals, jurisprudence, 1749—1832; "Fragment of Government, an examination of what Blackstone has delivered on the subject in his Commentaries," 8vo., 1776; "View

of the Hard-labour bill," 8vo., 1778; "Defence of Usury," 8vo., 1787; "An Introduction to the Principles of Morals and Legislation," 4to., 1789; "A Draught of a New Plan for the Organization of the Judicial Establishments of France," 8vo., 1790; "Panopticon, or the Inspection House," 12mo., 1791; "Supply without Burden, or Escheat *vice* Taxation," 8vo., 1795; "Traité de Législation, Civile et Pénale, publiée en François d'après les MSS. par Etienne Dumont," 3 vols., 8vo., Paris; "Letters to Lord Pelham on Penal Colonization, and the Home Penitentiary," 8vo., 1802; "A Plea for the Constitution," 8vo., 1803; "Scotch Reform," judicial, 8vo., 1808; *Théorie des Peines et des Récompenses*," edited in French by Dumont, 2 vols., 8vo. 1811; "On the Law of Evidence," 1813; "Table of the Springs of Human Action," "Swear not at all," 1813; "Catechism of Parliamentary Reform," 8vo., 1817; "Church of Englandism and its Catechism examined," 8vo., 1818; "Chrestomathia," educational, 8vo., 1816; "Observations on the Restriction and Prohibitory Commercial System," 1820; "Not Paul but Jesus," 8vo., 1823; "The Book of Fallacies," 8vo., 1814; "Indications respecting Lord Eldon," 8vo., 1825; "Codification Proposal," 8vo., 1827; "Supplement to," 8vo., 1827; "Equity Despatch-Court Proposal," 8vo., 1830; "Constitutional Code for the Use of all Liberal Governments," 8vo., 1830; "The Rationale of Reward," and "The Rationale of Punishment," English versions of Dumont's redactions of *"Peines et des Récompenses;"* "Official Aptitude Maximized," "Expense Minimized," 8vo., 1830; "A Test for Parliamentary Candidates," 8vo., 1831; "On Death-Punishment," 8vo., 1831; "Lord Brougham Displayed," 8vo., 1832.

William Sotheby, poetry, translations, 1757—1833. "Poems, Sonnets, and Odes," 4to., 1790; "Oberon," from the German of Wieland, 1798; "The Battle of the Nile," a poem, 1799; "The Siege of Cuzco," tragedy, 1800; "Six Tragedies," 8vo., 1800; "A new Translation of Homer."

Samuel Drew, metaphysics, religion, 1765—1833. "Remarks on Paine's Age of Reason," 1799; "Essay on the Immateriality and Immortality of the Soul," 1803; "Identity and General Resurrection of the Human Body," 8vo., 1809.

Sir John Malcolm, history, 1769—1833. "Political History of India," subsequent to 1784, 8vo., 1811; "Sketch of the Sikhs," 8vo., 1812; "Persia," a poem, without his name, 8vo., 1814; "History

of Persia," 2 vols., 4to.; "A Memoir of Central India." Sir John left an unfinished biography of Lord Clive, lately published.

Right Hon. Peter, Lord King, currency, 1775—1833. "Thoughts on the Bank Restriction Act," 8vo., 1803; "Speech in the Lords on Earl Stanhope's Bill respecting Guineas and Bank Notes," 8vo., 1811; "Life of John Locke, with extracts from his Correspondence," 4to.

Hannah More, poetry, morals, religion, 1745—1833. "Search after Happiness," pastoral drama, 8vo., 1773; "Percy," tragedy, 8vo., 1778; "Thoughts on the Manners of the Great," 12mo., 1788; "Estimate of the Religion of the Fashionable World," 12mo., 1791; "Strictures on the Modern System of Female Education," 2 vols., 8vo., 1799; "Cœlebs in Search of a Wife," 2 vols., 8vo., 1809; "Christian Morals," 2 vols., 8vo., 1812; "On the Writings of St. Paul," 2 vols., 8vo., 1815.

John O'Keefe, drama, 1746—1833. "Tony Lumpkin in Town," 8vo., 1778; "The Agreeable Surprise," 1781; "Wild Oats," 1794; "Modern Antiques," with many other popular plays.

Right Honourable Agar Ellis, Lord Dover, history, fine arts, 1797—1833. "History of the Man in the Iron Mask;" "Historical Inquiries concerning the Lord Chancellor Clarendon," 1828; "The Ellis Correspondence," 1829; "Life of Frederick the Great, King of Prussia," 2 vols., 8vo., 1831. He also edited the Letters of Horace Walpole to Sir Horace Mann, and was an able contributor to the periodical literature.

Rev. Daniel Lysons, antiquary, topographer, —1834. "Environs of London," 4 vols., 4to, 1792—6; "Magna Britannica," 3 vols., 4to., 1806—1822; "History of the Meetings of the Three Choirs of Gloucester, Worcester, and Hereford," 8vo., 1812.

Francis Douce, antiquary, 1760—1834. "Illustrations of Shakspeare," 2 vols. 8vo., 1807. Mr. Douce was a frequent writer in the *Archæologia*.

Rev. James Dallaway, heraldry, fine arts, 1763—1834. "Letters to the Bishop of Derry," 2 vols., 8vo., 1789; "Origin and Progress of Heraldry," 4to., 1792; "Constantinople, Ancient and Modern," 4to., 1797; "Anecdotes of the Arts in England," 8vo., 1800; "Observations on English Architecture," 8vo., 1806. In 1826 Mr. Dallaway superintended a finely embellished edition of Walpole's *Anecdotes of Painting*.

Prince Hoare, fine arts, drama, 1755—1834. "Such Things Were," a tragedy 1788; "Academic Annuals," 4to., 1805;

"Inquiry into the Arts of Design in England," 2 vols., 4to., 1806; "Life of Graunville Sharpe;" "Essay on the Moral Power of Shakspeare's Dramas."

Rev. T. R. Malthus, political economy, 1765—1834. "An Essay on the Principle of Population," 8vo., 1798; new edition, 4to., 1808; "A Letter to Samuel Whitbread, esq., on his Bill for the Amendment of the Poor Laws," 8vo., 1807; "Observations on the Corn Laws," 8vo. 1814; "An Inquiry into the Nature and Progress of Rent," 8vo., 1815; "Additions to an Essay, on the Principles of Population," 8vo., 1817; "Principles of Political Economy;" "Definitions in Political Economy," 8vo., 1827.

Charles Lamb, poetry, essays, 1774—1834. "Blank Verse" (in conjunction with his friend Charles Lloyd), 1798; "Rosamond Gray," 1798; "Specimens of the English Dramatic Poets," 1808; "John Woodville," tragedy, 1802; "Tales from Shakspeare," 2 vols., 8vo., 1807; "The Adventures of Ulysses," 12mo., 1808; "Elia," 1823; "Album Verses," 1830; "The Last Essays of Elia," 1833; "Garrick Papers," published in Mr. Hone's *Every Day Book*; "Satan in Quest of a Wife."

Samuel Taylor Coleridge, metaphysics, morals, poetry, 1772—1834. "Fall of Robespierre," drama, 8vo., 1794; "Addresses to the People," 8vo., 1795; "The Watchman," Nos. 1 to 10, a weekly miscellany, 1796; "Wallenstein," tragedy from Schiller, 8vo., 1800; "The Friend," essays, 8vo., 1812; "Remorse," tragedy, 1813; "Christabel," 1816 "Statesman's Manual, or Lay Sermon," 1816; "A Second Lay Sermon," 1817; "Zapolya," drama, 1818; "Aids to Reflection," 1825; "On the Constitution in Church and State," 1830.

Dr. Carey, missionary and oriental scholar, 1761—1834. "Sanskrit Grammar," 4to., 1806; "Maharatta Dictionary," 8vo., 1810; "Punjabee Grammar," 8vo., 1812; "Zelinga Grammar," 8vo., 1814; "Bengalhee Dictionary," 3 vols., 4to., 1818.

Dr. Morrison, missionary, Chinese scholar, 1782—1834, "New Testament, translated into Chinese," 1813; "Chinese Dictionary," 1822. Some books of the Old Testament were translated into Chinese by this indefatigable Orientalist, who was also the author of several translations from the Chinese into the English language.

Alexander Chalmers, biography, compilations, 1759—1834. "British Essayists," 45 vols., 1803; "Walker's Classics," 45 vols.; "Works of the English Poets," 21 vols., 8vo., 1810; "History of the Col-



leges and Halls of Oxford University;" "Projector," 3 vols., 8vo., 1811; "A Collection of Essays," originally published in the *Gentleman's Magazine*; "General Biographical Dictionary," first published in 15 vols., in 1798; the present edition is in 32 vols. This is his chief work and comprises 9000 lives. Mr. Chalmers also edited for the booksellers the works of Fielding, Johnson, Gibbon, Bolingbroke, Pope, Addison; and in 1812 prefixed a life of Cruden to the sixth edition of his "Concordance."

Rev. T. McCrie, biography, history, 1772—1835. "Life of John Knox," 1812; "Life of Andrew Melville," 1819; "History of the Reformation in Italy," 1827; "History of the Reformation in Spain," 1829.

Thomas James Mathias, satires, criticism,—1835. "Runic Odes," 1781; "Pursuits of Literature," 1794; "Works of Thomas Gray," 1814, 2 vols., 4to. Mr. Mathias had cultivated Italian with great success, and many of his publications are in that language.

William Cobbett, politics, 1762—1835. "Porcupine's Works" (first published in America about 1794—8, and reprinted in London), 12 vols. 8vo., 1801; "Political Register," 88 vols., 8vo. 1801—1835; "Parliamentary History" to 1803, in 12 vols.; "Debates from 1803 to 1810," 16 vols.; "Paper against Gold;" "Emigrant's Guide;" "History of the Protestant Reformation;" "Cottage Economy;" "Poor Man's Friend;" "An English Grammar;" "A French Grammar;" "Advice to Young Men and Women;" "Legacy to Labourers," 24mo., 1834; "Legacy to Parsons," 24mo., 1835.

Henry David Inglis, tales, travels, 1795—1835. "The Tales of Ardenne;" "Solitary Walks through Many Lands;" "Travels in Norway and Sweden;" "Tour through Switzerland and France;" "Spain in 1830;" "The New Gil Blas;" "Ireland in 1834;" "Travels in the Footsteps of Don Quixote," an unfinished work.

Thomas Taylor, the Platonist, 1758—1835. "A New Method of Reasoning on Geometry," 4to., 1780; "Orphic Hymns," 1787; "Plotinus on the Beautiful;" "Proclus's Commentary on Euclid." The most laborious of Mr. Taylor's tasks was a translation of Pausanias in 3 vols., for which he received only 60*l*. His publications extend to twenty-three quarto volumes and forty octavo volumes.

Charles Coote, history, biography, 1759—1835. "Elements of English Grammar," 1788; "History of England to 1793," 9 vols., 1797; "Life of Julius Cæsar," 1794; "History of the Irish Union," 1802; "Lives of English Civilians." Dr. Coote

wrote continuations of Russell's Ancient and Modern Histories, and of Mosheim's Ecclesiastical History. He also for some years edited the *Critical Review*, at a time when Southey, Pinkerton, D'Israeli, and other eminent writers, were contributors to it.

James Hogg, poetry, essays, 1772—1835. "Reflections on a View of the Nocturnal Heavens," 1801; "The Mountain Bard," 1807; "Cultivation of Sheep," 1807; "Forest Minstrel;" "The Spy," 1810—11; "The Queen's Wake," 1812; "Jacobite Relics of Scotland," 1819; "Winter Evening Tales," 1820; "The Three Perils of Man," 1822; "The Three Perils of Woman;" "Confessions of a Sinner," anonymous, 1824; "Queen Hynde," 1825; "The Shepherd's Calendar," 1829, a collection of tales which first appeared in *Blackwood's Magazine*; "Altrive Tales," 1832; "A Queer Book;" "Lay Sermons," 1834; "Domestic Manners of Sir Walter Scott," 1834.

William Henry Ireland, novels, poetry, 1835. "An Authentic Account of the Shakspeare Manuscripts," 8vo., 1796; "The Abbess," a romance, 4 vols., 12mo., 1799; "Ballads in imitation of the Ancients," 12mo., 1801; "Henry II.," drama, 8vo., 1799; "Mutius Scævola," drama, 1801; "Chatelot, or Effusions of Love," 12mo; "The Woman of Feeling," novel, 4 vols., 12mo.; "All the Blocks," poem, 12mo., 1807; "Confessions relative to the Shakspeare Forgery," 8vo., 1805; "Neglected Genius," poem, 8vo., 1812; "Chalcographimania," satirical poems, 8vo., 1814. Mr. Ireland was for some time editor of the *York Herald*, and his last works were a "Life of Napoleon" and "Topographical History of the County of Kent."

Sir John Sinclair, statistics, politics, agriculture, 1754—1835. "Lucubrations during a Short Recess," 8vo., 1782; "Statistical Account of Scotland," 4 vols., 8vo., 1792—1799; "History of the Public Revenue of Great Britain," 4to., 1785; "Considerations on Militias and Standing Armies;" "Essays on Agriculture;" "Code of Health and Longevity," 4 vols., 8vo., 1807; "Agricultural Practice of Scotland," 8vo., 1813; "Hints on Longevity," 4to. 1802; "On the Bullion Report," 8vo., 1810; with many others; and numerous papers in periodicals.

Sir William Gell, classical antiquary, 1777—1836. "Topography of Troy," 1804; "Antiquities of Ithaca," 1808; "Itinerary of Greece," 4to., 1810; "Itinerary of the Morea," 1817; "Pompeiana," 1817; "The Topography of Rome."

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II. of Prussia," 1789; "Aristotle's Ethics and Politics," 2 vols., 4to., 1797; "History of the World from Alexander to Augustus," 2 vols., 4to., 1810.

George Colman, drama, 1762—1836. "Two to One," 1784; "Inkle and Yarico," 1787; "Sylvester Daggerwood," and "The Mountaineers," 1795; "The Iron Chest," 1796; "The Heir-at-Law;" "Blue Beard;" "John Bull," 1805. Mr. Colman wrote "My Nightgown and Slippers," 4to., 1797; "Broad Grins;" "Poetical Vagaries," 4to., 1812; "Eccentricities for Edinburgh," no date.

Nathan Drake, miscellanies, 1756—1836. "Literary Hours," 1798; "The Gleaner," 1811; Shakspeare and his Times," 2 vols. 4to., 1817; "Winter Nights," 2 vols., 1820.

William Godwin, novels, education, biography, 1756—1836. "Sketches of History," six Sermons, 1784; "Political Justice," 2 vols., 8vo., 1793; "Caleb Williams," novel, 1794; "The Inquirer," series of essays, 1797; "Memoirs of Mary Wollstonecraft," 1798; "St. Leon," 1799; "Antonio," tragedy; "Life of Chaucer," 1803; "Fleetwood," 1804; "Faulkner," tragedy, 1807; "Essay on Sepulchres," 1808; "Lives of Milton's Nephews," 4to., 1815; "Mandeville," 1819; a controversial tract "On Population," 1820; "History of the Commonwealth of England to the Restoration of Charles II.," 1824—1828; "Cloudesley," a novel, 1831; "Thoughts on Man," 1831; "Lives of the Necromancers," 1834.

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—1836. "History of British India," 3 vols., 4to., 1818; "Elements of Political Economy," 8vo., 1821; "Analysis of the Human Mind," 2 vols., 8vo., 1829. Mr. Mill was the author of the articles, "Government," "Education," "Jurisprudence," "Liberty of the Press," "Colonies," &c., in the *Edinburgh Encyclopædia*, and was a contributor to the *Edinburgh Review*, and subsequently to the *Westminster Review*.

William Van Mildert, bishop of Durham, 1766—1836. Edition of "Waterton," 10 vols., 1823; "Sermons at Lincoln's Inn," 2 vols.

Rev. Spencer Madan, divinity, —1836. "Translation of Grotius de Veritate," 8vo., 1783; "Sermons;" "The Lessee;" "The Curate," 8vo., 1811.

William Taylor, 1768—1836. "Review of German Poetry," 3 vols., 8vo.

Henry Roscoe, legal writer, 1799—1836. "Lives of Eminent Lawyers," in Lardner's *Cyclopædia*; editor of "North's Lives," and author of several legal works.

William Marsden, orientalist, 1754—1836. "History of the Island of Sumatra," 4to., 1782; "Travels of Marco Polo, a Venetian, in the Thirteenth Century," 4to., 1818; "Numismata Orientalia Illustrata," 2 vols., 4to., 1825; "Memoirs of a Malayan Family," 8vo., 1830.

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